



XAT 2024 Question Paper

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Quant

1. In a small college, students are allowed to take only one specialization. Traditionally, only two specializations are offered: Science and Arts. Students enrolled to specialize in Science must take Physics and Mathematics subjects, while students enrolled to specialize in Arts must take Economics and Political Science subjects. Students enrolled in Science are not allowed to take either Economics or Political Science, while students enrolled in Arts are not allowed to take either Physics or Mathematics.

Recently, the college has started a third specialization called MatEco that requires students to take Economics and Mathematics. However, MatEco students would not be allowed to take either Physics or Political Science. When the college opens this new specialization for enrolment, it allows students, originally enrolled in Science or Arts, to switch to MatEco.

From among the students originally enrolled in Arts, 20 students switch to MatEco. This makes the number of Science students twice the number of Arts students. After this, from among the students who originally enrolled in Science, 45 students switch to MatEco. This makes the number of Arts students twice the number of Science students.

In total, how many students, from among those originally enrolled in Science or Arts, are now taking Economics?

- A 45
- B 65
- C 80
- D 95
- E None of the remaining options is correct.

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2. In a school, the number of students in each class, from Class I to X, in that order, are in an arithmetic progression. The total number of students from Class I to V is twice the total number of students from Class VI to X.

If the total number of students from Class I to IV is 462, how many students are there in Class VI?

- A 93
- B 88
- C 83
- D 77
- E None of the remaining options is correct.

3. A flight, traveling to a destination 11,200 kms away, was supposed to take off at 6:30 AM. Due to bad weather, the departure of the flight got delayed by three hours. The pilot increased the average speed of the airplane by 100 km/hr from the initially planned average speed, to reduce the overall delay to one hour.

Had the pilot increased the average speed by 350 km/hr from the initially planned average speed, when would have the flight reached its destination?

- A 11:30 PM
- B 7:50 PM
- C 5:10 PM
- D 8:10 PM
- E 10:36 PM

4. Consider the equation $\log_5(x - 2) = 2 \log_{25}(2x - 4)$, where x is a real number. For how many different values of x does the given equation hold?

- A 0
- B 1
- C 2
- D 4
- E Infinitely many

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5. The cost of running a movie theatre is Rs. 10,000 per day, plus additional Rs. 5000 per show. The theatre has 200 seats. A new movie released on Friday. There were three shows, where the ticket price was Rs. 250 each for the first two shows and Rs. 200 for the late-night show.

For all shows together, total occupancy was 80%. What was the maximum amount of profit possible?

- A Rs. 1,20,000
- B Rs. 87,000
- C Rs. 95,000
- D Rs. 91,000
- E Rs. 1,16,000

6. FS food stall sells only chicken biryani. If FS fixes a selling price of Rs. 160 per plate, 300 plates of biriyani are sold. For each increase in the selling price by Rs. 10 per plate, 10 fewer plates are sold. Similarly, for each decrease in the selling price by Rs. 10 per plate, 10 more plates are sold. FS incurs a cost of Rs. 120 per plate of biriyani, and has decided that the selling price will never be less than the cost price. Moreover, due to capacity constraints, more than 400 plates cannot be produced in a day. If the selling price on any given day is the same for all the plates and can only be a multiple of Rs. 10, then what is the maximum profit that FS can achieve in a day?

- A Rs. 25,300
- B Rs. 28,900
- C Rs. 41,400
- D Rs. 52,900
- E None of the remaining options is correct.

7. A farmer has a triangular plot of land. One side of the plot, henceforth called the base, is 300 feet long and the other two sides are equal. The perpendicular distance, from the corner of the plot, where the two equal sides meet, to the base, is 200 feet. To counter the adverse effect of climate change, the farmer wants to dig a circular pond. He plans that half of the circular area will be inside the triangular plot and the other half will be outside, which he will purchase at the market rate from his neighbour. The diameter of the circular plot is entirely contained in the base and the circumference of the pond touches the two equal sides of the triangle from inside.

If the market rate per square feet of land is Rs. 1400, how much does the farmer must pay to buy the land from his neighbour for the pond? (Choose the closest option.)

- A Rs. 3,16,80,000
- B Rs. 4,25,60,000
- C Rs. 6,33,60,000
- D Rs. 7,42,80,000
- E Rs. 2,98,20,000

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8. A group of boys is practising football in a rectangular ground. Raju and Ratan are standing at the two opposite mid-points of the two shorter sides. Raju has the ball, who passes it to Rivu, who is standing somewhere on one of the longer sides. Rivu holds the ball for 3 seconds and passes it to Ratan. Ratan holds the ball for 2 seconds and passes it back to Raju. The path of the ball from Raju to Rivu makes a right angle with the path of the ball from Rivu to Ratan. The speed of the ball, whenever passed, is always 10 metre per second, and the ball always moves on straight lines along the ground.

Consider the following two additional pieces of information:

- I. The dimension of the ground is 80 metres \times 50 metres.
- II. The area of the triangle formed by Raju, Rivu and Ratan is 1000 square metres.

Consider the problem of computing the following: how many seconds does it take for Raju to get the ball back since he passed it to Rivu? Choose the correct option.

- A I alone is sufficient to solve the problem.
- B II alone is sufficient to solve the problem.

- C Either of I or II, by itself, is sufficient to solve the problem.
- D I and II both are required to solve the problem.
- E The problem cannot be solved even with both I and II.
9. The least common multiple of a number and 990 is 6930. The greatest common divisor of that number and 550 is 110.
What is the sum of the digits of the least possible value of that number?
- A 6
- B 9
- C 14
- D 18
- E None of the remaining options is correct.
10. The roots of the polynomial $P(x) = 2x^3 - 11x^2 + 17x - 6$ are the radii of three concentric circles. The ratio of their area, when arranged from the largest to the smallest, is:
- A 6:2:1
- B 9:4:1
- C 16:6:3
- D 36:16:1
- E None of the remaining options is correct.
11. A local restaurant has 16 vegetarian items and 9 non-vegetarian items in their menu. Some items contain gluten, while the rest are gluten-free.
One evening, Rohit and his friends went to the restaurant. They planned to choose two different vegetarian items and three different non-vegetarian items from the entire menu. Later, Bela and her friends also went to the same restaurant: they planned to choose two different vegetarian items and one non-vegetarian item only from the gluten-free options. The number of item combinations that Rohit and his friends could choose from, given their plan, was 12 times the number of item combinations that Bela and her friends could choose from, given their plan.
How many menu items contain gluten?
- A 1
- B 2
- C 3
- D 4
- E 5
12. Consider the system of two linear equations as follows: $3x + 21y + p = 0$; and $qx + ry - 7 = 0$, where p, q, and r are real numbers.
Which of the following statements DEFINITELY CONTRADICTS the fact that the lines represented by the two

equations are coinciding?

- A p and q must have opposite signs
- B The smallest among p, q, and r is r
- C The largest among p, q, and r is q
- D r and q must have same signs
- E p cannot be 0

13. Consider a 4-digit number of the form abbb, i.e., the first digit is a ($a > 0$) and the last three digits are all b. Which of the following conditions is both NECESSARY and SUFFICIENT to ensure that the 4-digit number is divisible by a?

- A b is divisible by a
- B b is equal to 0
- C $21b$ is divisible by a
- D $9b$ is divisible by a
- E $3b$ is divisible by a

14. Consider a right-angled triangle ABC, right angled at B. Two circles, each of radius r, are drawn inside the triangle in such a way that one of them touches AB and BC, while the other one touches AC and BC. The two circles also touch each other (see the image below). If $AB = 18$ cm and $BC = 24$ cm, then find the value of r.

- A 3 cm
- B 4 cm
- C 3.5 cm
- D 4.5 cm
- E None of the remaining options is correct.

15. A king has distributed all his rare jewels in three boxes. The first box contains $\frac{1}{3}$ of the rare jewels, while the second box contains $\frac{k}{5}$ of the rare jewels, for some positive integer value of k. The third box contains 66 rare jewels.

How many rare jewels does the king have?

- A 990

- B 660
- C 240
- D 1080
- E Cannot be determined uniquely from the given information.

Instructions [16 - 17]

Read the following scenario and answer the TWO questions that follow.

Aman has come to the market with Rs. 100. If he buys 5 kilograms of cabbage and 4 kilograms of potato, he will have Rs. 20 left; or else, if he buys 4 kilograms of cabbage and 5 kilograms of onion, he will have Rs. 7 left. The per kilogram prices of cabbage, onion and potato are positive integers (in rupees), and any type of these vegetables can only be purchased in positive integer kilogram, or none at all.

16. Aman decides to buy only onion, in whatever maximum quantity possible (in positive integer kilogram), with the money he has come to the market with. How much money will he be left with after the purchase?

- A Rs. 12
- B Rs. 9
- C Rs. 7
- D Rs. 5
- E Rs. 1

17. Aman decides to buy only onion and potato, both in positive integer kilogram, in such a way that the money left with him after the purchase will be insufficient to buy a full kilogram of either of the two vegetables.

If all such permissible combinations of purchases are equally likely, what is the probability that Aman buys more onion than potato?

- A $\frac{3}{10}$
- B $\frac{5}{6}$
- C $\frac{2}{9}$

D 7
20

E 4
10

Instructions [18 - 19]

Read the following scenario and answer the TWO questions that follow.

41 applicants have been shortlisted for interviews for some data analyst positions. Some of the applicants have advanced expertise in one or more fields among the following: data analysis, database handling and coding.

The numbers of applicants with different advanced expertise are given in the 2×8 table below.

The number of applicants with advanced expertise in all three fields is given as x in the table, where x is a non- negative integer.

18. What BEST can be concluded about the value of x ?

A 0, 1 or 2

B 2 only

C 1 only

D 0 or 1 only

E 1 or 2 only

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19. How many applicants DID NOT have advanced expertise in any of the three given fields?

A Cannot be determined uniquely from the given information.

B 25

C 26

D 27

E 28

Instructions [20 - 22]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

The upper hinge of a dataset is the median of all the values to the right of the median of the dataset in an ascending arrangement, while the lower hinge of the dataset is the median of all the values to the left of the median of the dataset in the same arrangement.

For example, consider the dataset 4, 3, 2, 6, 4, 2, 7. When arranged in the ascending order, it becomes 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 6, 7. The median is 4 (the bold value), and hence the upper hinge is the median of 4, 6, 7, i.e., 6. Similarly, the lower hinge is 2.

A student has surveyed thirteen of her teachers, and recorded their work experience (in integer years). Two of the values recorded by the student got smudged, and she cannot recall those values. All she remembers is that those two values were unequal, so let us write them as A and B, where $A \neq B$. The remaining eleven values, as recorded, are: 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 21, 27, 29. Moreover, the student also remembers the following summary measures, calculated based on all the thirteen values:

Minimum: 2

Lower Hinge: 6.5

Median: 12

Upper Hinge: 21

Maximum: 29

20. Which of the following is a possible value of B?

A 2

B 6

C 8

D 13

E 29

21. Based on the information recorded, which of the following can be the average work experience of the thirteen teachers?

A 12

B 12.5

C 13

D 13.5

E 14

22. While rechecking her original notes to re-enter the smudged values of A and B in the records, the student found that one of the eleven recorded work experience values that did not get smudged was recorded wrongly as half of its correct value. After re-entering the values of A and B, and correcting the wrongly recorded value, she recalculated all the summary measures. The recalculated average value was 15. What is the value of B?

A 7

B 9

C 10

D 12

E Cannot be determined from the given information.

Instructions [23 - 25]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

A T20 cricket match consists of two teams playing twenty overs each, numbered 1 to 20. The runs scored in any over is a non-negative integer. The run rate at the end of any over is the average runs scored up to and including that over, i.e., the run rate at the end of the k -th over is the average number of runs scored in overs numbered 1, 2, ..., k , where $1 \leq k \leq 20$, k a positive integer.

The following table indicates the run rate of a team at the end of some of the overs during a T20 cricket match (correct up to 2 decimal places), where $1 \leq N - 2 < N + 6 \leq 20$, N a positive integer. It is also known that the team did not score less than 6 runs and more than 15 runs in any over.

23. What is the value of N ?

- A 7
- B 13
- C 14
- D 9
- E 12

24. In which of these pairs of over numbers, the team could have scored 22 runs in total?

- A 6 and 7
- B 7 and 8
- C 8 and 9
- D 9 and 10
- E 10 and 11

25. In which of the following over numbers, the team MUST have scored the least number of runs?

- A 7
- B 8
- C 9
- D 10
- E 11

Instructions [26 - 28]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

A store offers a choice of five different discount coupons to its customers, described as follows:

Coupon A: A flat discount of Rs. 250 on a minimum spend of Rs. 1200 in one transaction.

Coupon B: A 15% discount on a minimum spend of Rs. 500 in one transaction, up to a maximum discount of Rs. 300.

Coupon C: A flat discount of Rs. 100 on a minimum spend of Rs. 600 in one transaction.

Coupon D: A 10% discount on a minimum spend of Rs. 250 in one transaction, up to a maximum discount of Rs. 100.

Coupon E: A flat discount of Rs. 50 on a minimum spend of Rs. 200 in one transaction.

The customers are allowed to use at most one coupon in one transaction, i.e., two or more coupons cannot be combined for the same transaction.

26. Four customers used four different discount coupons for their respective transactions in such a way that they obtained a total discount of Rs. 710. Which discount coupon was not used?

- A Coupon A
- B Coupon B
- C Coupon C
- D Coupon D
- E Coupon E

27. Four customers used four different discount coupons for their respective transactions in such a way that nobody used any discount coupon sub-optimally. (A discount coupon is used sub-optimally if using another discount coupon could have resulted in a higher discount for the same transaction.) What was the minimum combined spend (before application of any discount)?

- A Rs. 2250
- B Rs. 2500
- C Rs. 2350
- D Rs. 2300
- E Rs. 1550

28. A family wanted to purchase four products worth Rs. 1000 each, and another product worth Rs. 300. They were told that they could:

- I) pay for the five products through one or more transactions in any way they wanted, as long as the purchase amount of any one product would not get split into different transactions, and
- II) use the same discount coupon repeatedly for separate transactions, if they opt for more than one transaction.

What was the maximum discount that they could obtain for their purchase?

- A Rs. 600
- B Rs. 645
- C Rs. 650
- D Rs. 700
- E None of the remaining options is correct.

Decision Making

Instructions [29 - 31]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Mr. Singh lived in a sprawling housing society. He employed two part-time domestic helps, Vimla and Sharda. Vimla was responsible for cleaning and dusting, while Sharda took care of cooking.

Once Sharda fell ill and consequently took leave for three days. When Sharda returned to work, she learned that Mr. Singh's gold ring, a gift from his mother, was missing. Suspecting theft, Mr. Singh had terminated Vimla. Mr. Singh asked Sharda to take additional responsibility of cleaning the house, along with an offer to double her salary. Sharda accepted the offer as her previous two jobs were lost due to frequent health-related absences. She was struggling to make ends meet; this offer would go a long way to help her.

Next day, while cleaning under the dressing table, Sharda found the gold ring. Overjoyed, Mr. Singh expressed his gratitude by presenting Sharda a reward of one thousand rupees! However, he made no mention of reinstating Vimla.

29. Sharda was contemplating whether she should inform Vimla that she found Mr. Singh's ring. Which of the following considerations will BEST dissuade Sharda in sharing the information about the ring with Vimla?

- A Mr. Singh will probably terminate Sharda if he gets to know that she has revealed this information.
- B Had Vimla done her job properly, she would have found the ring and avoided this incident.
- C Vimla already knows she has not stolen anything, so telling her will not give her any new information.
- D Sharda is not keeping well, and Mr. Singh warned her that her frequent absences could lead to her termination.
- E Whenever Sharda was absent, Vimla used to help her by taking over her responsibilities.

30. Two months passed, and owing to Sharda's improved health and dedication, Sharda started working in three more houses. However, Vimla was dismissed from her jobs in two more houses primarily due to the ring incident. News of the discovery of the lost ring had not become public, and Sharda wanted to help Vimla. Sharda is contemplating over possible actions.

Which of the following actions, by Sharda, will BEST help Vimla?

- A Confront Mr. Singh about concealing the discovery of the lost ring from the housing society residents.
- B Inform Vimla that the ring has been found and advise her to demand compensation from Mr. Singh for tarnishing her image.
- C Inform as many domestic helps in the housing society as possible that she has found the ring.
- D Quit the job at Mr. Singh's house and ask him to consider offering that job to Vimla.
- E Divulge to Vimla's employers in the housing society that she has found the ring.

31. The news of the discovery of the lost ring eventually became public. The domestic helps in the society were chagrined by the treatment meted out to Vimla and the fact that the news of the discovery was not made public immediately. They wanted to ensure that they would not get targeted every time if something goes missing.

Which of the following policy options will BEST minimize the chance of employers suspecting their domestic workers of theft in the future?

- A The domestic workers will undergo a daily search by the security guards when leaving the society.
- B When a domestic worker is terminated on suspicion of theft without proof, they will have to be paid at least one month's salary in full.
- C The current address and contact details of all domestic workers should be submitted to the housing society.
- D If there is a suspicion of theft, the security guards will first conduct a thorough search of the affected house.
- E When a domestic worker is terminated on suspicion of theft, the employer will have to publicly apologize if the domestic worker can prove their innocence.

Instructions [32 - 34]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

In Symbolis, an upcoming medium sized IT services organization, only 1% of the employees were awarded an annual performance bonus. This annual performance bonus was decided by a committee formed of different functional heads. When Ms. Nalini Kattakayam received the annual bonus for the first time in her five years at Symbolis, Ms. Shalini Sampath, a colleague with seven years of tenure at Symbolis, told Nalini that this annual bonus was less a reflection of Nalini's performance and more a recognition of those who have fostered a strong rapport with the powers that be. Incidentally, Shalini had never received any performance bonus in her tenure at the company.

32. Shalini's comments deeply hurt Nalini, especially since she had always considered Shalini to be a close friend. Nalini felt like declining the bonus, given her respect for and relationship with Shalini. Which of the following reasons, if true, will BEST dissuade Nalini from declining the bonus?

- A Shalini, good at heart, is known for making insensitive comments.
- B Shalini is known for confronting her boss whenever they changed deadlines.
- C In her close group, Nalini is the first person to receive the bonus.
- D Very few people, who are not considered loyal, receive the bonus.
- E Shalini's irreverent comment about her previous boss pushed her out of that team.

33. Since receiving the performance bonus, Nalini noticed a change in how her teammates behaved with her; they appeared indifferent towards her. Although there were no major issues, Nalini could not help but sense that her teammates began to perceive her as having a closer relationship with the top brass, following her recent accomplishment. Nalini assumed that her teammates might be influenced by Shalini; consequently, they seemed to be avoiding informal interactions with her. As Nalini had to rely on the support of her teammates, what could Nalini BEST do to normalize her relationship with them?

- A Do nothing in the hope that things will normalize in time.
- B Confront Shalini and ask her to stop spreading rumors.
- C Invite her teammates for dinner on a weekend.

D Start saying negative things about their bosses to her teammates.

E Talk to her teammates regarding their indifference towards her.

34. A significant project recently arrived at Symbolis, and Nalini was chosen to spearhead it. She was given the autonomy to create her own team to collaborate and drive this project to success. Nalini wanted to build a team where each of the team members worked with great comradery. As Shalini had previous experience of working with the client, Nalini offered her to join the team. However, Shalini expressed her willingness to work on the project only on the condition that she would be appointed as a team leader.

Nalini was aware that the client was very difficult to work with. Of the three previous projects with the client, only the one, where Shalini was a team member, was successfully completed.

What should be the BEST course of action for Nalini regarding the inclusion of Shalini in the team?

A Form a team without Shalini and inform her boss about Shalini's demand.

B Ask Shalini to reconsider as this project can be important to both of them.

C Tell her boss that Shalini should lead the team as she has worked with the client before.

D Complain about Shalini's attitude to the human resource manager.

E Request her boss to order Shalini to join the team.

Instructions [35 - 37]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Raman had been working tirelessly as a Project Manager in the IT department of Flying Groceries, a renowned app-based supply chain company, for the past three years. Having graduated from a top-tier engineering college, he dived straight into the corporate world, managing projects with great zeal that inspired his seniors.

At the end of his first year with Flying Groceries, impressed with his hard work, Raman's boss, Suraj, the founder-CEO of Flying Groceries, fast-tracked his promotion and made him Delivery Manager responsible for multiple projects of a vertical. Suraj also promised Raman the position of Chief Operation Officer in the fifth year of his tenure.

In search of a greater career trajectory, Raman pursued entrance exams for business schools. His efforts bore fruits as he secured a place in the country's best business school, known for a strong alumni base, stellar placement records and demanding academic requirements.

Raman was delighted; he had three months to join the business school. Flying Groceries demanded that any employee who wished to leave the organization should give at least a month's notice. Raman decided to continue working and enriching his work experience, which will be beneficial when applying to companies after graduating from the business school. Therefore, he decided not to share the news of the offer with anyone else for the time being.

35. Flying Groceries was planning to implement a much-needed update to enhance the functionality and user experience of their app. According to Suraj, the update was expected to take at least six months to complete. Suraj wanted Raman to lead this project because his leadership was critical for the project's success. However, Raman knew that he would be there only for three months; he was not sure whether he should accept the project.

Which of the following information, if true, will BEST assist Raman in accepting the role of leading the project?

A During his time with Flying Groceries, Raman finished some projects ahead of schedule.

B Raman could requisition more human resources to his team for the next three months.

C Suraj might advise against the update if he got to know that Raman was leaving soon.

- D The last two projects Raman led were successfully completed by his subordinates during his exams.
- E Raman had previously taken many projects home, and the business school would have no classes during the weekends.

36. After a couple of months, Raman resigned. Suraj was shocked by Raman's resignation and asked him to reconsider his decision. When Raman expressed his inability to continue, Suraj felt betrayed. This led to a series of heated arguments between them, and they swore to never work together again.

Raman joined the business school; however, he soon realized that that summer internship placements were approaching. Consequently, he would require verification of his responsibilities from Flying Groceries. Which of the following actions is the MOST appropriate for Raman to obtain his verification?

- A Raman should write a sincere and professional apology letter, expressing regret for the argument Raman had with Suraj.
- B Raman should write an email to Suraj, emphasizing Raman's roles and responsibilities, and request him to approve them.
- C Raman should contact the HR representative to facilitate the verification of Raman's responsibilities.
- D Raman should reach out to a mutual acquaintance within the company and ask her to intervene.
- E Raman should re-establish communication with Suraj through social media platforms like Facebook and persuade him there.

37. Raman received a verification letter from Flying Groceries outlining his basic job responsibilities during his tenure there. However, Raman required a document to substantiate the additional responsibilities he undertook at Flying Groceries by going beyond his call of duty. Sadly, he did not have any documentation of such additional responsibilities.

Which of the following options will BEST help substantiate the additional responsibilities Raman undertook?

- A Raman should create documentation, detailing quantifiable metrics and results about his extra work based on his memory.
- B Raman should collect testimonials on his additional responsibilities from his ex-teammates at Flying Groceries.
- C Raman should write a public post on social media, appealing to Suraj, mentioning the challenges he faced while taking additional responsibilities, and how he overcame them.
- D Raman should call Suraj and explain that he will not be able to get a consulting or an operations job without verification.
- E Raman should reach out to the recently recruited Chief Supply Chain officer at Flying Groceries to highlight the additional work he contributed to facilitate the officer's tasks.

Instructions [38 - 40]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Kasta, a small industrial town hosted a steel plant and its associated ancillary companies. Most of its residents were steel plant employees from different states of the country. While the town offered employment opportunities, it lacked an airport. For those wanting to fly, the nearest airport was in Michaelganj, 100 kms from Kasta. To reach the airport, people rented taxi services available at Kasta, and Prabhu was one such taxi- service provider.

Prabhu's rates were reasonable — a trip to airport cost Rs. 2200, but for a round trip, the fare was Rs. 3000. Yet, it was not just the affordability that made him popular, his reputation for punctuality and reliability was unmatched. When it came to ensuring the safety of women travelling alone, he would always be the first choice. Such was his trustworthiness that even the steel plant would solicit his services when expecting solo female visitors. Moreover, whenever residents encountered issues with their personal cars, they would turn to Prabhu for help.

However, the world shifted when the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Travel restrictions and safety concerns limited Prabhu's trips to Michaelganj for over a year and a half. Financial strain followed, with accumulating interest on his home loan. He was weighed down by debt, but things improved once COVID-19 travel restrictions were lifted. Having faced financial hardships during COVID-19, he sought to offset his losses by raising the fare. Yet, he was aware of the stiff competition in town, where many others offered services at a similar fare as his.

38. Prabhu decided to increase the taxi fare for all future trips. He planned to charge Rs. 3000 for a one-way trip to the airport, and Rs. 1000 more for a round trip.

Which of the following facts will BEST help Prabhu's regular customers in accepting the increase in fare?

- A Because, the cost of living has gone up in Kasta.
- B Because, Prabhu is punctual and reliable.
- C Because, Prabhu is facing financial hardships.
- D Because, Prabhu offers repair services to residents' car-related issues.
- E Because, Prabhu serves many top officials of the steel plant.

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39. After Prabhu increased his charges by 30%, the revenue flow was promising in the beginning, especially from the steel plant's official trips. After a few months, he noticed a dip in private bookings. On exploring further, Prabhu realized that while women travelling solo still preferred Prabhu's service, some of his regular customers were choosing his competitors when travelling as a family. However, he knew that his competitors, while charging lower than him, were still tardy and sometimes cancelled at the last minute.

Which of the following options will BEST help Prabhu to retain his revenue flow?

- A Revert the pricing of services to its prior rate.
- B Give 50% discount for personal trips.
- C Stick to his current increased charges.
- D Charge a premium when women travel solo.
- E Charge a premium for the steel plant's official trips.

40. Saroj, the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at the steel plant, used the services of Manoj when he first travelled from the Michaelganj airport to the plant. Manoj was a rival of Prabhu in the taxi service business at Kasta. Manoj, upon learning that Saroj would be responsible for hiring taxi services for the steel plant, charged Saroj only Rs. 1500 for that trip. Further, he assured Saroj to charge the same for a one way-trip and additional Rs. 500 for a round trip to the airport.

Upon realizing that the plant utilized Prabhu's services for all official trips to the airport, Saroj contacted Prabhu to discuss the rates offered by Manoj and inquired why the plant should continue using his service when Manoj provided the same at a lower price. Prabhu realized that Manoj charged an extremely low price just to push Prabhu out of his business in the Steel Plant.

Which of the following reasons given by Prabhu will BEST help his cause?

- A Prabhu should warn Saroj that Manoj's offer is not sustainable.
- B Prabhu should request Saroj to talk to a few of his colleagues before taking any decision.
- C Prabhu should introduce Saroj to Ms. Nidhi Tawde, his regular customer.
- D Prabhu should offer to lower his price to the one offered by Manoj, exclusively for the steel plant.
- E Prabhu should tell Saroj that Manoj is unreliable and tardy, and women are unsafe with him.

Instructions [41 - 43]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Ms. Vineeta Lama, a respected figure in the small town of Jampur, found herself stranded on the road, once again, when her old small hatchback car broke down. Finding herself alone on the deserted road with no one to help, Vineeta, in desperation called Shyam Saigal, the General Manager of Balaji Motors – the only dealership in Jampur that sells Diplomatico cars, the brand that Vineeta drives. Vineeta knew Shyam from her frequent visits for getting her hatchback car serviced. Surprisingly, he arrived within fifteen minutes, accompanied by a mechanic from his dealership. Further, he arranged for the vehicle to be towed and kindly offered Vineeta a ride home. On the way back, he advised Vineeta to exchange her old car with a new Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) on a good discount from his dealership. He assured her that he would add several additional services to ensure her SUV remained in excellent condition for many years ahead.

41. Due to her old car's frequent breakdowns, Vineeta decided it was a time to replace it. She was afraid whether buying a Diplomatico SUV from Balaji Motors, as suggested by Shyam, will be a right decision for her.

Which of the following pieces of additional information will help her the MOST in taking the right decision?

- A She has no idea which SUV to choose, and she feels that all SUVs are the same.
- B Her brother, an SUV enthusiast, staying in a metro city, has advised her to stay away from Diplomatico Cars.
- C In Jampur, SUVs have a 6-month waiting period; however, one red-coloured Diplomatico SUV, not her favourite colour, is available at Balaji Motors.
- D Jampur, being an old city with congested roads, has a parking problem in many areas.
- E A new dealership of Panther Motors, the highest selling car brand in the country, is about to come to the town soon.

42. Shyam's satisfaction from meeting the month's quota for selling SUVs turned to dismay when one of his young executives nervously told him that he mistakenly punched an extended warranty for free to Vineeta's purchase contract earlier that morning. This could not be reversed from the company's system and meant a loss of Rs. 19,000 for the dealership. The executive was very sorry and was ready to take accountability. However, the amount was too large to be borne by the executive.

Shyam was not concerned about placing accountability, but rather the recovery of the loss. He was unsure whether he should ask Vineeta for the money.

The following pieces of information are available to Shyam:

- A. Shyam is aware that Vineeta is very happy with the deal he gave her for the car.
- B. Shyam feels that Diplomatico's software system is complicated for new employees, which might have also played a role in the error.
- C. Vineeta has a wide network and can connect Shyam with many potential customers.
- D. Vineeta's brother, a car enthusiast, has enough knowledge of how car dealers operate.
- E. Shyam feels that if he maintains the current sales volume, he might be able to persuade Diplomatico to write off the amount (Rs. 19,000).

Which of the following combinations, of the above pieces of information, will MOST likely stop Shyam from trying to recover the money from Vineeta?

- A A & B
- B A & D
- C C & D
- D C & E
- E B & E

43. Three months passed. While returning from a friend's house, Vineeta's new SUV was hit by another car. Fortunately, she was not injured, but the SUV was badly damaged. Surprisingly, when Vineeta took the car for repairs to Balaji Motors, she was told that the repairs would not cost her anything as the extended warranty on her car covered such accidents. Vineeta could not recall purchasing such a warranty; hence, she contacted Shyam. Shyam informed her that the extended warranty was mistakenly punched into her contract by an executive. As this mistake could not be reversed due to the company's rigid policies, Shyam bore the cost of Rs. 19,000. He further added that Vineeta should consider it a gift from Balaji Motors for purchasing the highest-priced Diplomatico SUV.

As Vineeta rode back home, she wondered if she should pay Rs. 19,000 to Shyam since the extended warranty came to her aid that day.

Which of the following is the MOST compelling rationale for Vineeta to justify not paying Rs. 19,000 to Shyam?

- A She paid more for the Diplomatico SUV, compared to the price of a similar SUV from Panther.
- B She is aware that for expensive SUVs like hers, dealers often offer free extended warranty.
- C The mistake happened three months back and is water under the bridge now.
- D Had the accident not happened, she would not have been aware of the warranty.
- E Shyam would have come back to her if he had needed the money.

Instructions [44 - 46]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

ABC Business School was a school with a difference. Regarded as one of the top business schools in western India, but relatively unknown beyond that, the school catered to smaller organizations seeking to hire students for sales and marketing positions, with occasional openings in HR roles. These students were open to secure job opportunities, even if they offered relatively lower salaries. The organizations, that recruited from ABC, did not really care for the talent, but appreciated the students' ability to follow orders without questioning them. The school's strength laid in its alumni, who consistently returned to the institution for recruitment, thereby ensuring the school's continued existence. Given the placement record, the school attracted a specific segment of business school aspirants, who wanted a solid job but were not excited about learning.

44. Recently, some alumni of ABC threatened that their children should be given preference in admissions, or they would withdraw as recruiters. The director was, however, hesitant about allowing alumni to interfere in running the school because the fairness of the admissions process had earned ABC high respect within the corporate world that recruited from the school.

Which of the following reasons, if true, will BEST help the director NOT to worry about pandering to those alumni?

- A The alumni were the reason that ABC was able to attract corporates.
- B Some of the alumni were regularly teaching as guest faculty in the school.
- C The alumni depend upon ABC's success to enhance their employability.
- D No business school, in the region, has allowed alumni any say in managing the operations.
- E ABC has not entertained any requests from the alumni till date.

45. Across the country, business schools were ranked by popular magazines. A few business schools in the same region were applying for rankings, hoping that rankings will affect their visibility among corporate houses and recruiters. To achieve a good rank, ABC faculty members, who have primarily focused on teaching thus far, would need to actively engage in research and consulting activities. The director was aware that asking the faculty to switch to research and consulting would not be easy.

Which of the following facts will BEST help the director not to worry about applying for rankings?

- A The alumni do not follow research publications in general.
- B The alumni do not care for the teachers, or classes, in general.
- C The alumni are aware that ABC offers a retainable talent pool.
- D ABC's placements in the previous year were completed in 4 days.
- E ABC could never break into the top 40 ranks in the country when it applied earlier.

46. A few faculty members complained to the director regarding the lack of attendance and seriousness among many students during classes and exams. The director knew that this had been the case for decades but became more rampant in the last few years. He was also aware that the classes were mostly rituals, conducted to tell the world that ABC believed in education and had little bearing on placements. However, he believed that students must be told to attend classes and take exams with serious attitude.

Which of the following announcements by the director will BEST ensure that faculty stop complaining about student attendance?

- A Students, who attend every class, should be given "thank you" notes from the director.
- B Students should be asked to pay a monetary penalty for missing classes.
- C Faculty members, who make classes very engaging, should be felicitated during the convocation.
- D Only students, with at least 85 percent class attendance, will participate in placements.
- E Students should be rewarded for contributing to in-class discussions and learning.

Instructions [47 - 49]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

DeepSea is a natural gas extraction company that retrieves natural gas from rock formations beneath the seabed. This gas is then transported through its extensive pipeline network to a bottling plant, located at the sea surface, for processing. The gas in rock formations is pressurized, enabling it to flow to the surface and reach the bottling plant. Yet, excessive pressure can cause bursts in the pipeline, leading to uncontrolled gas release, known as blowout. A blowout carries a staggering cost, encompassing not only environmental damage but also reputation loss and financial losses totaling crores of rupees. Additionally, the impacted section of the pipeline requires a complete replacement.

Industry safety regulations divide the pipeline network into three levels: Level 3 is the part under the seabed, Level 2 is the part above the seabed but in the deep sea, while Level 1 is near the surface. The safety regulations require multiple blowout preventer valves, from now on simply referred to as valves, to be placed at the three different levels of the pipeline network. The valves are normally kept closed, but when the pressure in any part of the pipeline rises beyond a critical level, nearby valves are opened remotely to release the pressure in a controlled manner to prevent blowout. The number of valves across the pipeline helps localize the pressure release, with a greater number of valves providing a backup mechanism, helping in improving pressure localization in case of a blowout. Given that the valves themselves can occasionally malfunction and not release the pressure when needed, using a higher number of valves ensures that a malfunctioning valve can seek the safety of a nearby functioning valve.

A valve can malfunction in two ways: it may fail to release pressure when needed, as previously mentioned, or it can leak gas during regular operation, resulting in unwanted losses. When a valve malfunctions, it necessitates manual replacement.

In the DeepSea Network, 30% of the valves are located at Level 3, which is the deepest level. The remaining valves are evenly distributed between the top two levels. These valves are critical to ensuring safety and are exclusively supplied by GoValve, a highly specialized manufacturer that holds a monopoly in the country's market.

47. GoValve has recently proposed a maintenance package for the valves to DeepSea, which includes a clause that whenever a valve at Level 3 malfunctions, all valves at that level will be replaced. Accepting the clause will cost a significant premium. The management of DeepSea have the following pieces of additional information under consideration:

- A. The valves are known to be prone to malfunction.
- B. Any malfunction in one valve often results in leakage from the neighboring valves.
- C. GoValve is ready to negotiate a discount if the clause is accepted.
- D. Replacing the valves at Level 3 is a very difficult job, which is best done by GoValve.
- E. The chances of pressure buildups are higher near the seabed.

Which of the following combinations, of the above pieces of additional information, will help the management of DeepSea the MOST in accepting the clause?

- A A, B & D
- B A, B & E
- C B, C & D
- D A, C & D
- E C, D & E

48. A startup, SafeValve, has started importing a technologically superior brand of valves from abroad, which boasts a significant reduction in gas leakage. SafeValve has established a large inventory of these imported valves but is struggling to gain foothold in the local market. An NGO, working for the protection of marine lives, has appealed to DeepSea to replace their existing valves with the product from SafeValve. However, the installation of this new valve will require substantial modification in the pipeline, entailing unknown challenges in installation and maintenance.

Which of the following reasons, if TRUE, can DeepSea BEST cite to publicly reject the appeal?

- A The new valves cost twice as much as the existing valves.
- B GoValve is a reputed brand and had a partnership with DeepSea for a long time.
- C Only some developed countries have mandated the use of the new valves.
- D SafeValve depends exclusively on imports and may be prone to procurement issues.
- E GoValve follows the strictest global industry standards of leakage prevention.

49. A startup, SafeValve, has started importing a technologically superior brand of valves from abroad, which boasts a significant reduction in gas leakage. An update to industry safety regulations has come out, which allows a lower number of valves in a pipeline network, if technologically superior valves, similar to those imported by SafeValve, are used for the entire network.

DeepSea is aware that the more the number of valves, the better is DeepSea's ability to contain blowouts. However, a higher number of valves increases the chance of a leakage. Therefore, DeepSea is contemplating a proposal to reduce the number of valves to almost half, by replacing the existing valves (by GoValve) with the valves sold by SafeValve. A team, tasked with evaluating the proposal, has made some observations, listed below.

Which of the following observations is the MOST helpful in REJECTING the proposal?

- A There is no clear industry standard for the minimum number of valves required at a certain level.
- B At Level 1, the chance of a pressure rise is much lesser compared to the other two levels.
- C At Level 3, a blowout results in more time consuming and expensive repairs compared to the other two levels.
- D The superiority of the SafeValve products is only in terms of preventing leakage, not blowouts.
- E If a GoValve valve is opened to prevent a blowout, the chance of leakage from the valves within a certain distance increases.

Verbal Ability & Logical Reasoning

50. Read the following statement carefully.

_____ like a fake can be a sign of _____, and clinging too tightly to what feels like one's authentic self can _____ that growth.

Fill in the blanks meaningfully, in the above statement, from the following options.

- A acting, progress, enhance
- B feeling, growth, hinder
- C behaving, improvement, support
- D performing, stupidity, change
- E operating, smartness, increase

51. Read the following statement carefully and fill up the blanks from the given options.

As _____ evolved and eventually moved to cities, close proximity _____ how we viewed and assessed each _____.

- A civilization, enhanced, situation
- B generations, changed, other
- C culture, helped, life
- D lives, destroyed, culture
- E people, helped, nation

52. Read the following sentences carefully.

- A. I shall be there at about 9: 00 a.m.
- B. Keep off of the grass.
- C. My old car was much faster than the new one.
- D. I was angry at my friend.
- E. Rohit is as capable as Virat.

Which of the following combinations has all the INCORRECT sentences?

- A A & B
- B B & C
- C C & D
- D D & E
- E A & E

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53. Read the following sentences carefully.

- A. Everybody accepts his responsibilities.
- B. Nobody in that group have their reports up to date, as they should have.
- C. Either of the boys is acceptable to do the errands.
- D. Both of the mice is underfed.
- E. It is I who am next.
- F. The teacher told he and I to leave early.

Which of the following combinations has all the sentences grammatically CORRECT?

- A B,D & F
- B B, C & D
- C A, C & E
- D A, E & F
- E C, D & F

54. Read the following statements and answer the question that follows.

- A. Back then, they were owned by companies and installed on their premises.
- B. Rooms and servers began to replace computer mainframes in the 1990's.
- C. These were supplemented by processors from Intel, which by the mid-2000s translated its dominance of PC semiconductors into a near monopoly of the server market.
- D. They mostly ran on chips made by IBM and HP, the big tech of the day.
- E. Things started to change once again around a decade ago, when Amazon began selling some of its spare server capacity.

Which of the following combinations is the MOST logically ordered

- A A, B, C, D, E
- B E, A, D, C, B
- C B, A, D, C, E
- D E, D, C, B, A
- E B, E, C, D, A

55. Go through the statements below and answer the question that follows.

- A. Maybe you have survived major trauma and have a hard time feeling safe.
- B. You'll probably discover that your fear and struggles make sense on account of what you've lived through.
- C. Instead of beating yourself up for reacting in ways you don't understand, you can develop compassion for yourself and what you've been through.
- D. Perhaps you have experienced a sudden death, and you are often anxious about the health of your loved ones.
- E. You may also find out that you have more strength than you knew, the same strength that has sustained you this far.

Which of the following combinations is the MOST logically ordered?

- A B, A, D, C, E
- B E, B, A, D, C
- C E, A, D, C, B
- D D, C, B, A, E
- E E, D, C, B, A

56. Read the following paragraph and answer the question that follows.

Fear is the greatest motivator of all time. Conflict born of fear is behind our every action, driving us forward like the cogs of a clock. Fear is desire's dark dress, its doppelgänger. "Love and dread are brothers," says Julian of Norwich. As desire is wanting and fear is not-wanting, they become inexorably linked; just as desire can be destructive (the desire for power), fear can be constructive (fear of hurting another); fear of poverty becomes desire for wealth.

Which of the following statements can be BEST concluded from the paragraph?

- A A positive action generally has a foundation of fear underneath.
- B The interplay of fear and desire helps in guiding one's action.
- C Fear is a powerful motivator that leads to extraordinary achievements.

- D While fear is perceived as negative, it can be a force for good.
- E Fear paves the way to positive transformation when paired with desire

57. Read the following paragraphs and answer the question that

follows. Paragraph 1:

Here are some handy rules of thumb. Anyone who calls themselves a thought leader is to be avoided. A man who does not wear socks cannot be trusted. And a company that holds an employee-appreciation day does not appreciate its employees.

Paragraph 2:

It is not just that the message sent by acknowledging staff for one out of 260-odd working days is a bit of a giveaway (there isn't a love-your-spouse day ... for the same reason). It is also that the ideas are usually so tragically unappreciative. You have worked hard all year so you get a slice of cold pizza or a rock stamped with the words "You rock"?

Which of the following BEST describes the relationship of the first paragraph with the second paragraph?

- A The first paragraph is redundant, in the presence of the second paragraph.
- B The first paragraph is humorous, while the second paragraph is sarcastic.
- C The second paragraph gives evidence to the claims made by the first paragraph.
- D Without the second paragraph the first paragraph is meaningless.
- E The first paragraph evokes interest, the second paragraph elaborates.

58. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows.

How do we choose one discovery over any other? The physician Lewis Thomas made a choice. He bluntly asserts: "The greatest of all the accomplishments of 20th-century science has been the discovery of human ignorance."

The science writer Timothy Ferris agrees: "Our ignorance, of course, has always been with us, and always will be. What is new is our awareness of it, our awakening to its fathomless dimensions, and it is this, more than anything else, that marks the coming of age of our species."

It is an odd, unsettling thought that the culmination of our greatest century of discovery should be the confirmation of our ignorance. How did such a thing come about?

Which of the following statements can be BEST concluded from the above passage?

- A Humans know more when they know they know very little
- B Humans became scientists when they realized that they were ignorant.
- C Humans progressed because they knew that they knew very little.
- D The realization that humans are ignorant led them to invent new things.
- E That they do not know enough make humans seek to know more.

59. Read the following paragraph and answer the question that follows.

You may accumulate a vast amount of knowledge but it will be of far less value to you than a much smaller amount if you have not thought it over for yourself; because only through ordering what you know by comparing every truth with every other truth can you take complete possession of your knowledge and get it into your power.

Based on the above information, which of the following statements **MUST** be true?

- A If she wants to master knowledge, she must reflect on the information.
- B If she reflects on the information, she will master the knowledge.
- C If she has not mastered knowledge, she must have not reflected on information.
- D If she has mastered the knowledge, she might have reflected on the information.
- E If she is a master of knowledge, it is because she is a reflector of information.

60. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows.

That's how life plays out for all of us. We lose some. Like sportspersons, we too pack our gear and go to work. But unlike them, the gaze of the world is not upon us. Most of us do our business in anonymity, very few of us are emotionally wired to the outcomes of our day jobs. We don't come back feeling like winners. Or losers. As sports fans we can summon empathy for those who stretch their bodies and minds to the limit in the pursuit of athletic excellence and provide such joys in the process.

But we will never experience the highs that are their reward. And we will never know the depth of their lows, which are their burden.

Still, no one will know better than Rohit and Dravid that its already a new day. There might never be a World Cup win for them. But there are loved ones to go to. Life awaits still.

Which of the following statements **BEST** summarizes the above passage?

- A Life moves on, and as sports fans, we should do too.
- B The wins and loss in sports do not exist in other professions.
- C We should treat winning and losing as imposters.
- D Just because we enjoy sports does not mean we understand the sportspersons.
- E We should put ourselves in others shoes rather than judge them for performance.

Instructions [61 - 62]

Read the following poem and answer the **TWO** questions that follow.

In the darkened room
a woman
cannot find her reflection in the mirror
waiting as usual
at the edge of sleep
In her hands she holds
the oil lamp
whose drunken yellow flames
know where her lonely body hides

61. Which of the following statements **BEST** conveys the theme of the poem?

- A The poem explores the quality of life of a woman.
- B The poem laments the suffering and frustration of a woman.

- C The poem celebrates the woman's futile and meaningless life.
- D The poem revolves around a woman whose liberty has been throttled.
- E The poem revolves around the woman's feeling of alienation.

62. What do the lines "the drunken yellow flames/know where her lonely body hides" BEST represent?

- A The lines represent flames as forces that are aware of her solitude.
- B The lines represent flames as turbulent emotions of a nameless woman.
- C The lines represent flames that highlight the location of her body
- D The lines represent flames as distorted memories that preserve her identity.
- E The lines represent flames as her desperate pursuit for her lost self.

Instructions [63 - 64]

Read the following passage and answer the TWO questions that follow.

But as the behavioral economists like to remind us, we are already prone to all sorts of reductions as a species. It's not just the scientists. We compress complex reality down into abbreviated heuristics that often work beautifully in everyday life for high-frequency, low-significance decisions. Because we are an unusually clever and self-reflective species, we long ago realized that we needed help overcoming those reductive instincts when it really matters. And so we invented a tool called storytelling. At first, some of our stories were even more reductive than the sciences would prove to be: allegories and parables and morality plays that compressed the flux of real life down to archetypal moral messages. But over time the stories grew more adept at describing the true complexity of lived experience, the whorls and the threadlike pressures. One of the crowning achievements of that growth is the realist novel. That, of course, is the latent implication of Prince Andrei's question: "innumerable conditions made meaningful only in unpredictable moments" would fare well as a description of both War and Peace and Middlemarch, arguably the two totemic works in the realist canon. What gives the novel the grain of truth lies precisely in the way it doesn't quite run along the expected grooves, the way it dramatizes all the forces and unpredictable variables that shape the choices humans confront at the most meaningful moments of their lives.

When we read those novels—or similarly rich biographies of historical figures—we are not just entertaining ourselves; we are also rehearsing for our own real-world experiences....

63. Which of the following is the BEST interpretation regarding reductive instincts?

- A Reductive instincts tell us to reduce every situation to a heuristic.
- B After the invention of storytelling, humans have overcome their reductive instincts.
- C Reductive instincts can help us in handling uncertainty
- D Reductive instincts have to be overcome for survival in the real world
- E Reductive instincts led to compression of complex reality to moral messages.

64. Why would a realist novel consist of "innumerable conditions made meaningful only in unpredictable moments?"

- A To keep the reader engaged till the end of the novel.

- B To bring in as much content as possible without making it seem forced.
- C To showcase unexpected complexity while making it seem relevant in the given context.
- D To show to the reader that realist novel does not work on expected lines.
- E To engage the reader with realism and fantasy at the same time

Instructions [65 - 66]

Read the following passage and answer the TWO questions that follow.

Beauty has an aesthetic, but it is not the same as aesthetics, not when it can be embodied, controlled by powerful interests, and when it can be commodified. Beauty can be manners, also a socially contingent set of traits. Whatever power decides that beauty is, it must always be more than reducible to a single thing. Beauty is a wonderful form of capital in a world that organizes everything around gender and then requires a performance of gender that makes some of its members more equal than others.

Beauty would not be such a useful distinction were it not for the economic and political conditions. It is trite at this point to point out capitalism, which is precisely why it must be pointed out. Systems of exchange tend to generate the kind of ideas that work well as exchanges. Because it

can be an idea and a good and a body, beauty serves many useful functions for our economic system. Even better, beauty can be political. It can exclude and include, one of the basic conditions of any politics. Beauty has it all. It can be political, economic, external, individualized, generalizing, exclusionary, and perhaps best of all a story that can be told. Our dominant story of beauty is that it is simultaneously a blessing, of genetics or gods, and a site of conversion. You can become beautiful if you accept the right prophets and their wisdoms with a side of products thrown in for good measure. Forget that these two ideas—unique blessing and earned reward— are antithetical to each other. That makes beauty all the more perfect for our (social and political) time, itself anchored in paradoxes like freedom and property, opportunity and equality.

65. Based on the passage, which of the following CANNOT be inferred about beauty?

- A Beauty is no longer an abstract concept.
- B Beauty has become an aspirational good.
- C Different powers and influences delineate beauty for us.
- D Beauty is defined and appreciated by the perceiver.
- E The beautiful does not define the standards of beauty.

66. Based on the passage, which of the following BEST explains beauty to be simultaneously a “blessing” and a “site of conversion?”

- A Both are narratives, with one supporting the other.
- B When properly communicated people will believe anything.
- C Because beauty is a blessing everyone wants to possess it by converting to the standards.
- D A blessing, when sought, results in a provider of the blessing, in a capitalistic society
- E Though beauty is a unique blessing, one can become beautiful by imitating beautiful people.

Instructions [67 - 69]

Read the following passage and answer the THREE questions that follow.

What I call fast political thinking is driven by simplified moral frames. These moral frames give us the sense that those who agree with us have the right answer, while those who disagree are unreasonable, or worse. Each moral frame sets up an axis of favorable and unfavorable. Progressives use the oppressor-oppressed axis. Progressives view most favorably those groups that can be regarded as oppressed or standing with the oppressed, and they view most unfavorably those groups that can be regarded as oppressors. Conservatives use the civilization-barbarism axis. Conservatives view most favorably the institutions that they believe constrain and guide people toward civilized behavior, and they view most unfavorably those people who they see as trying to tear down such institutions. Libertarians use the liberty-coercion axis. Libertarians view most favorably those people who defer to decisions that are made on the basis of personal choice and voluntary agreement, and they view most unfavorably those people who favor government interventions that restrict personal choice.

If you have a dominant axis, I suggest that you try to learn the languages spoken by those who use the other axes. Don't worry—learning other languages won't make it easy for others to convert you to their point of view. By the same token, it will not make it easy to convert others to your point of view. However, you may become aware of assumptions your side makes that others might legitimately question.

What learning the other languages can do is enable you to understand how others think about political issues. Instead of resorting to the theory that people with other views are crazy or stupid or evil, you may concede that they have a coherent point of view. In fact, their point of view could be just as coherent as yours. The problem is that those people apply their point of view in circumstances where you are fairly sure that it is not really appropriate.

Consider that there may be situations in which one frame describes the problem much better than the others. For example, I believe that the civil rights movement in the United States is best described using the progressive heuristic of the oppressed and the oppressor. In the 1950s and the early 1960s, the people who had the right model were the people who were fighting for black Americans to have true voting rights, equal access to housing, and an end to the Jim Crow laws. The civilization-barbarism axis and the liberty-coercion axis did not provide the best insight into the issue....

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67. Which of the following BEST describes the civilization-barbarism axis?

- A The way we are trained to behave affects our peace in life
- B Some people are barbaric and should be restrained from public life.
- C It is how you behave, not who you are, that makes you acceptable.
- D Government should play a very heavy role in maintaining law and order.
- E Every society has to have a harmonious mix of civilized and the barbaric for it to survive.

68. Which of the following BEST explains the author's usage of the term moral frames?

- A The frames give those who believe in them the right to question others' behaviours.
- B The frames define what the believer believes as right or wrong.
- C A frame is a belief and cannot be rationally explained.
- D What is right to the believer is wrong to those who do not share that belief.
- E It makes easy for the believer to declare others as wrong.

69. Which of the following can BEST be concluded from the above passage?

- A Knowing why you think the way you think, enables you to understand others' perspectives.
- B Most controversial issues in the world can be simplified into three axes.
- C The assumptions we hold leads to our dominant axis.
- D Issues can be solved by looking at them from the right axis and questioning the assumptions.
- E Most problems in the world are because of applying the wrong axis to a particular problem.

Instructions [70 - 72]

Read the following passage and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Because it's so easy to judge the idiocy of others, it may be sorely tempting to think this doesn't apply to you. But the problem of unrecognized ignorance is one that visits us all. And over the years, I've become convinced of one key, overarching fact about the ignorant mind. One should not think of it as uninformed. Rather, one should think of it as misinformed.

An ignorant mind is precisely not a spotless, empty vessel, but one that's filled with the clutter of irrelevant or misleading life experiences, theories, facts, intuitions, strategies, algorithms, heuristics, metaphors, and hunches that regrettably have the look and feel of useful and accurate knowledge. This clutter is an unfortunate by-product of one of our greatest strengths as a species. We are unbridled pattern recognizers and profligate theorizers. Often, our theories are good enough to get us through the day, or at least to an age when we can procreate. But our genius for creative storytelling, combined with our inability to detect our own ignorance, can sometimes lead to situations that are embarrassing, unfortunate, or downright dangerous—especially in a technologically advanced, complex democratic society that occasionally invests mistaken popular beliefs with immense destructive power. As the humorist Josh Billings once put it, "It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so." (Ironically, one thing many people "know" about this quote is that it was first uttered by Mark Twain or Will Rogers—which just ain't so.)

Because of the way we are built, and because of the way we learn from our environment, we are all engines of misbelief. And the better we understand how our wonderful yet kludge-ridden, Rube Goldberg engine works, the better we—as individuals and as a society—can harness it to navigate toward a more objective understanding of the truth.

70. Which of the following statement is NOT true about an ignorant mind?

- A An ignorant mind is often filled with unfounded and misguided distractions.
- B An ignorant mind succumbs to illusionary pattern detection.
- C An ignorant mind theorizes without robust evidence.
- D An ignorant mind is unaware of its own limitations.
- E An ignorant mind often fuels scepticism.

71. Based on the passage, what does the author BEST mean when he says, "we are all engines of misbelief?"

- A Driven by misbelief, we blend our creativity and ignorance.
- B Our brains are wired with certain heuristics that can lead to systematic errors in judgement.
- C We are prone to holding beliefs that are not necessarily true.
- D We are naturally inclined to form, and often share, misleading and inaccurate beliefs.
- E We are always fuelled by our ignorance to spread information.

72. With which of the following statements will the author agree the MOST?

- A We must try not to see patterns in everything that we observe.
- B We must be aware that the patterns we see may not necessarily reflect the truth.
- C We must be sceptical of the beliefs we have, regardless how true they seem to us.
- D The more we are sure of something, the more we are wrong about it.
- E Our desire to see patterns in everything makes us unable to detect misbeliefs in others.

Instructions [73 - 75]

Read the following passage and answer the THREE questions that follow.

If we imagine the action of a vaccine not just in terms of how it affects a single body, but also in terms of how it affects the collective body of a community, it is fair to think of vaccination as a kind of banking of immunity. Contributions to this bank are donations to those who cannot or will not be protected by their own immunity. This is the principle of herd immunity, and it is through herd immunity that mass vaccination becomes far more effective than individual vaccination.

Any given vaccine can fail to produce immunity in an individual, and some vaccines, like the influenza vaccine, are less effective than others. But when enough people are vaccinated with even a relatively ineffective vaccine, viruses have trouble moving from host to host and cease to spread, sparing both the unvaccinated and those in whom vaccination has not produced immunity. This is why the chances of contracting measles can be higher for a vaccinated person living in a largely unvaccinated community than they are for an unvaccinated person living in a largely vaccinated community.

The unvaccinated person is protected by the bodies around her, bodies through which disease is not circulating. But a vaccinated person surrounded by bodies that host disease is left vulnerable to vaccine failure or fading immunity. We are protected not so much by our own skin, but by what is beyond it. The boundaries between our bodies begin to dissolve here. Donations of blood and organs move between us, exiting one body and entering another, and so too with immunity, which is a common trust as much as it is a private account. Those of us who draw on collective immunity owe our health to our neighbors.

73. Based on the passage, which of the following CANNOT be concluded?

- A A vaccine cannot guarantee immunity in an individual.
- B Our survival, as a community, is largely based on herd immunity.
- C A vaccinated person may get infected if her surroundings are largely unvaccinated.
- D Collective immunity protects those with compromised immune systems.
- E Even, relatively, ineffective vaccines can stop the spread of viruses if enough people are vaccinated

74. Why does the author think about vaccination as a “banking of immunity?”

- A Because it creates a reserve of immunity within a person’s immune system.
- B Because when somebody is vaccinated, it is a deposit of protection against a particular disease.
- C Because different vaccines contribute to a diverse portfolio of immune defences.
- D Because it is like providing a safety net for those who are more vulnerable to diseases.

E Because it is a way to mitigate health risks for those who may not have access to vaccination.

75. Based on the last paragraph of the passage, which of the following would the author BEST agree with?

- A In times of health crises, communities should come together to support and protect each other.
- B It is important to express gratitude to those who contribute to the herd immunity by getting vaccinated.
- C It is an ethical obligation of individuals to get vaccinated for the greater good.
- D In any community, immunity is transactional.
- E Immunity of a community is interconnected, and everyone plays a role to keep each other healthy

General Knowledge

76. Which of the following years is NOT a leap year?

- A 1900
- B 2000
- C 1896
- D 1924
- E 2024

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77. Which two teams competed in the final match of the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023, held on March 26, 2023 in Mumbai?

- A Delhi Capitals & Mumbai Indians
- B Gujarat Giants & Delhi Capitals
- C UP Warriorz & Delhi Capitals
- D Royal Challengers Bangalore & Mumbai Indians
- E Delhi Capitals & Gujarat Giants

78. Which city hosted the recently concluded Asian Games 2022 (which happened in 2023)?

- A Incheon
- B Hangzhou

- C Jakarta
- D Guangzhou
- E Busan

79. Which of the following countries has NOT been invited to join the BRICS in the BRICS' expansion plan for 2024?

- A Egypt
- B Ethiopia
- C Saudi Arabia
- D Iran
- E Pakistan

80. Why has Dr. Akshata Krishnamurthy been in the news recently?

- A She is the first Indian citizen to command a rover mission on Mars.
- B She is the first Indian citizen to lead the Big Bang Observatory.
- C She is the first Indian citizen appointed to the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory.
- D She is the first Indian citizen to be heading the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer.
- E She is the first Indian citizen to make a major breakthrough in the genome sequencing of Jamun.

81. Who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2023?

- A Barack Obama
- B Shirin Ebadi
- C Narges Mohammadi
- D Maria Ressa
- E Center for Civil Liberties

82. The movie Oppenheimer was directed by:

- A Christopher Nolan
- B Greta Gerwig
- C Quentin Tarantino
- D Zack Snyder
- E Steven Spielberg

83. Matthew Perry, who died in 2023, was famously known for playing which character in the sitcom called Friends?

- A Ross Geller
- B Chandler Bing
- C Joey Tribbiani
- D Raymond Holt
- E Monica Geller

84. Claudia Dale Goldin was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2023 in recognition of her groundbreaking research in the field of:

- A Women in the Work Force
- B Behavioural Economics
- C Human Trafficking
- D Unemployment in Global South
- E Poverty in Africa

85. Which country has formally pulled out of "Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe?"

- A Israel
- B Russia
- C Italy
- D Germany
- E Turkey

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86. What is the name of Air India's Artificial Intelligence-powered chat assistant that introduced a generative AI virtual agent?

- A Niyaa
- B AirBuddy
- C Sathi
- D Maharaja
- E Frenz

87. In November 2023, which state government declared a fish named "Ghol" as the state fish?

- A Uttar Pradesh
- B Haryana

- C Gujarat
- D Bihar
- E Maharashtra

88. Which Indian city set a world record by illuminating 22.23 lakh earthen lamps on the eve of Diwali 2023?

- A Ayodhya
- B Prayagraj
- C Varanasi
- D Udupi
- E Rameswaram

89. Which rocket was used to launch Aditya-L1?

- A PSLV-C57
- B LVM3 -M4
- C NGLV
- D GSLV-F12
- E TERLS

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90. Which company has launched a dedicated air cargo service in India to speed up deliveries?

- A Amazon
- B Flipkart
- C Jiomart
- D Tata Cliq
- E Snapdeal

91. What is X-37B?

- A The name of the youngest kid of Elon Musk.
- B The new electric vehicle to be launched by Tesla.
- C The newest variant of COVID-19 virus.
- D The U.S. military plane that has gone to the space.
- E The name of India's Jupiter mission.

92. Which of the following prefectures of Japan was MAJORLY affected by an earthquake on January 1, 2024?

- A Ishikawa
- B Osaka
- C Tokyo
- D Hiroshima
- E Fukushima

93. Which of the following Indian states does the River Ganges not flow through?

- A Uttarakhand
- B Bihar
- C Jharkhand
- D Haryana
- E Uttar Pradesh

94. Arrange the following historic capital cities of Indian kingdoms in the order of their geographic locations, from north to south.

- (a) Kannauj
- (b) Karur
- (c) Pataliputra
- (d) Rajahmundry

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- A (b)-(d)-(c)-(a)
- B (a)-(c)-(d)-(b)
- C (a)-(c)-(b)-(d)
- D (c)-(a)-(b)-(d)
- E (c)-(d)-(a)-(b)

95. Match the following books with their authors.

- A a-iv, b-iii, c-v, d-ii, e-i
- B b-iv, a-iii, c-v, d-ii, e-i

- C a-iv, c-iii, b-v, d-ii, e-i
- D e-iv, b-iii, d-v, c-ii, a-i
- E a-iv, c-iii, e-v, d-ii, b-i

96. What is the common terminology used to describe the following applications: ChatGPT, Google Bard, Chatsonic?

- A Generative AI Tools
- B Dating Tools
- C Gaming Applications
- D News Aggregators
- E UPI Applications

97. Which of the following governors-general of India introduced the policy of "doctrine of lapse?"

- A Lord Wellesley
- B Lord Curzon
- C Lord Mountbatten
- D Lord Dalhousie
- E Lord Reading

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98. What is Nabanno?

- A It is a town close to Nabarno-Karabakh.
- B It is the harvest festival of Bengal and Bangladesh.
- C It is another word for "great news."
- D It is a dancing festival in Jammu and Kashmir.
- E It is a perennial river that flows in the Deccan.

99. Arrange the following famous battles in the order of their occurrence:

- (a) Battle of the Hydaspes
- (b) First Battle of Tarain
- (c) Battle of Khanwa
- (d) Battle of Talikota
- (e) Battle of Buxar

- A (a)-(c)-(d)-(b)-(e)
- B (a)-(e)-(b)-(c)-(d)

C (a)-(b)-(c)-(d)-(e)

D (a)-(c)-(b)-(d)-(e)

E (a)-(b)-(d)-(c)-(e)

100. Match the following national capitals with their respective countries/territories.

A a-ii, b-iii, c-iv, d-i

B a-ii, b-iii, c-i, d-iv

C a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

D a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii

E a-ii, b-iv, c-iii, d-i

Essay

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101. Tech predictions often fail not because of wrong models or a lack of imagination, but due to lack of humility in admitting our uncertainty about the future. (Maximum 250 words)

102. Implementing more stringent regulations on social media platforms is crucial to effectively combat the proliferation of fake news. (Maximum 250 words)

103. "Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter least." (Maximum 250 words)

Answers

Quant

1.D	2.D	3.D	4.A	5.D	6.B	7.A	8.A
9.C	10.D	11.B	12.C	13.E	14.B	15.A	16.E
17.A	18.B	19.C	20.C	21.E	22.C	23.A	24.D
25.A	26.E	27.B	28.C				

Decision Making

29.A	30.E	31.A	32.A	33.E	34.B	35.D	36.C
37.B	38.B	39.B	40.B	41.B	42.D	43.B	44.C
45.C	46.D	47.A	48.E	49.C			

Verbal Ability & Logical Reasoning

50.B	51.B	52.A	53.C	54.C	55.A	56.D	57.E
58.E	59.A	60.D	61.E	62.A	63.E	64.C	65.E
66.C	67.C	68.B	69.A	70.E	71.D	72.B	73.B
74.E	75.E						

General Knowledge

76.A	77.A	78.B	79.E	80.A	81.C	82.A	83.B
84.A	85.B	86.D	87.C	88.A	89.A	90.A	91.D
92.A	93.D	94.B	95.A	96.A	97.D	98.B	99.C
100.A							

Essay

101.e	102.e	103.e
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Explanations

Quant

1. D

Let's assume that the number of students who initially took Arts is x and the number of students who initially took Science is y .

After 20 students shifted from Arts to MatEco, the number of Science students was twice that of Arts students.

That is $y=2*(x-20) \Rightarrow 2x-y-40=0 \rightarrow 1$

Now, 45 of the students who originally enrolled in Science have switched to MatEco. This makes the number of Arts students twice the number of Science students.

So, $x-20=2*(y-45) \Rightarrow x-2y+70=0 \rightarrow 2$

Now that we have two linear equations. Let's solve them.

Multiply Equation 1 with -2 and add it to Equation 2.

$$-4x+2y+80=0$$

$$x-2y+70=0$$

$$-3x+150=0$$

$$3x=150 \Rightarrow x=50$$

So, the original number of students enrolled in Arts is 50.

Substitute the value of x in equation 1 to get the y value.

$$y=60$$

There are 65 (20 from arts, 45 from Science who shifted to the MatEco) in MatEco. All these study Economics; apart from them, the people currently in Arts also study Economics. There are $50-20=30$ people currently in Arts. So, the total number of people who study Economics is $65+30=95$.

2. D

The number of students from 1 to 10 is in AP. Let's assume the series as follows:

$a, a+d, a+2d, a+3d, a+4d, a+5d, a+6d, a+7d, a+8d, a+9d$.

Given that the sum of the number of students in the first four classes is

$$462. \text{ So, } a+a+d+a+2d+a+3d=4a+6d=462 \Rightarrow 2a+3d=231 \rightarrow 1$$

It is also given that the total number of students from Class I to V is twice the total number of students from Class VI to X.

$$\text{So, } 5a+10d = 2*(5a+35d).$$

$$5a+10d=10a+70d$$

$$5a+60d=0 \rightarrow 2$$

Solving equations 1 and 2.

Multiply equation 1 with 20.

We get $40a+60d=4620 \rightarrow 3$. Subtract equation 2 from equation

$$3. \text{ We get } 35a=4620$$

$$\Rightarrow a=132.$$

Substitute a value in equation 2. We get $60d=-660 \Rightarrow d=-11$.

Now, we have to calculate the number of students in class VI.

$$\text{That is } a+5d=132-5*11=77.$$

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3. D

Let's assume the initial speed of the flight is F . And the time taken is t .

Given the distance to be travelled, 11200.

We know distance = speed *time.

So, $11200 = Ft \rightarrow 1$

Due to bad weather, the flight started with a three-hour delay. Given that the flight speed increased by 100kmph, the delay would be reduced to one hour. So, it is nothing but the travel time is reduced by 2 hours.

In that case, the equation will become $11200 = (F+100)(t-2) \rightarrow 2$

Equation 1 can be re-written as $t = \frac{11200}{F} \rightarrow 3$

Now Equation 2: $\frac{11200}{F+100} = t - 2$

$$\Rightarrow = \frac{11200}{F+100} + 2 = t$$

$$\frac{11200 + 2(F+100)}{F+100} = t$$

$$t = \frac{11400 + 2F}{F+100} \rightarrow 4$$

Divide equation 3 by equation 4:

$$\frac{t}{t} = \frac{\frac{11200}{F}}{\frac{11400 + 2F}{F+100}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(11400 + 2F)}{F+100} = \frac{11200}{F}$$

$$(11400 + 2F) \cdot F = (F + 100) \cdot 11200$$

$$(11400F + 2F^2) = (11200F + 1120000)$$

$$2F^2 + 200F - 1120000 = 0 \Rightarrow F^2 + 100F - 560000 = 0$$

So, $F=700$ or -800 . Speed can't be negative. So, the speed is 700km/hr.

Now, if the speed is increased by 350, the new speed will be 1050.

Hence, the time taken will be $\frac{11200}{1050} = \frac{32}{3} = 10 \frac{2}{3} \text{ hrs} = 10 \text{ hrs } 40 \text{ min}$

The flight has to start at 6:30 am, but it is delayed by 3 hrs. So, the actual time is 9:30 am. 10hrs: 40mins from that will be 8:10 pm

4. A

Let's reduce the RHS first : $-2 \log_{25}(2x - 4) = {}^2_2 \log_5(2x - 4) = \log_5(2x - 4)$

Here we used the formulae $\log_a b^m = {}^m_n \log_a b$

Now LHS=RHS

$$\log_5(x - 2) = \log_5(2x - 4)$$

The bases are equal.

So, $x-2=2x-4$

$x=2$, but 2 is not in the domain as it will lead to log 0. Hence, there are no solutions for this.

5. D

The cost of running all three shows a day is $10,000 + 3 \cdot 5,000 = 25,000$.

The has to be 80% occupancy of total seats. In total there are $200 \cdot 3$ shows = 600 seats.

Out of that 80% is $\frac{80}{100} \cdot 600 = 420$

Since we need to maximize the profit. We shall take the vacant 120 seat in show 3 which cost less.

The income from first show $200 * 250 = 50,000$

The income from second show $200 * 250 = 50,000$

The income from third show $80 * 200 = 16,000$

The total income is $1,16,000 - 25,000 = 91,000$

6. B

Given that the plate costs 120, they are selling it for 160, and the number of buyers is 300; the current profit is 40 per customer.

It is crucial to note that any increase of price by 10 will decrease the number of customers by 10, and conversely, any decrease of price will increase the number of buyers by 10.

Let's say the maximum profit is gained by increasing the profit by x times 10. In that case, the number of customers will decrease by x times 10.

The profit will be $(40+10x)(300-10x)$; this has to be maximum.

Let's expand this expression.

$$(40+10x)(300-10x) = 12000 + 3000x - 400x - 100x^2$$

$$12000 + 2600x - 100x^2$$

This has to be maximum.

If we multiply it by -1, it has to be minimum.

$$100x^2 - 2600x + 12000 = 100x^2 - 2 * 130 * 10x + 130^2 = (10x - 130)^2 - 12000 - 130^2$$

$$(10x - 130)^2 - 28900$$

Before, we multiplied the expression by -1 to revert that again, multiply by -1.

The new expression is $28900 - (10x - 130)^2$. The maximum value of this expression is 28900.

7. A

The line AC is tangent to the circle. So, the line DE is perpendicular to AC and is radius to the circle.

Look at the $\triangle ADC$ and $\triangle DEC$. $\angle DAC = \angle EDC$, $\angle C = \angle C$. And both D and E are right angle triangles. So, both the triangles are similar.

$\triangle ADC$ is a right-angled triangle.

$$AC^2 = AD^2 + DC^2$$

$$AC^2 = 200^2 + 150^2 = 250^2$$

$AC = 250$, $AD = 200$, $DE = r$, $DC = 150$

$$\frac{AD}{DE} = \frac{AC}{DC}$$

$$\frac{200}{r} = \frac{250}{150}$$

$$\Rightarrow r=120.$$

Given half pond is inside the triangle, so he has to only buy half the area of the circle.

$$\text{Cost for buying area of semi circle} = \pi \frac{r^2}{2} * 1400 = \pi \frac{120^2}{2} * 1400 = 3,16,80,000$$

8. A

The question states that the path forms a right-angle triangle at Rivu. So, let's consider the distance from Raju to Rivu as x and that from Rivu to Ratan as y.

i)

Now, $\triangle ABC$ form a right-angled triangle. Using Pythagoras theorem

$$AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 80^2 = 6400 \text{ --->1}$$

$$\text{The area of } \triangle ABC \text{ is } \frac{1}{2} \cdot b \cdot h = \frac{1}{2} \cdot x \cdot y >2$$

If we consider the base of the triangle as AC of length 80(side of rectangle) and height as altitude from B of length 25 (half the breadth of rectangle), we can get the area as $\frac{1}{2} \cdot b \cdot h = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 80 \cdot 25 = 1000$.

Now, use this in equation 2.

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot x \cdot y = 1000$$

$$y=1000$$

$$xy=2000 \text{ --->3}$$

$$(x+y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy = 6400 + 4000 = 10400$$

$$x+y=20 \quad 26$$

This is the distance the ball travels at 10m/s. The time taken is $26+5$ sec for holding.

2 So, 1 alone is sufficient.

ii) Given the area of the triangle is 1000

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot x \cdot y = 1000$$

$$\Rightarrow xy=2000$$

With this alone, we can't find the travel time.

9. C

Let's say the unknown number is x—the LCM of x, 990= 6930.

LCM is the greatest power of a prime number in those two numbers.

Now let's prime factorize 990 and 6930.

$$990=2*5*11*3^2$$

$$6930=2*3^2*5*7*11$$

The number 990 has all the powers of prime numbers, which are also present in 6930, except 7. So, x definitely has to have 7.

Then, it is given that the GCD of x and 550 is 110. So, x has to be a factor of 110. 110 is not a multiple of 7. So, we have to multiply the 110 by 7. That is 770, which is the minimum value of x.

The sum of digits of x is $7+7+0=14$

10. D

First, we have to find the roots of the cubical equation.

One root has to be figured out using the trial and error method.

Let's try 1.

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$$P(x) = 2x^3 - 11x^2 + 17x - 6$$

$$P(1) = 2 * 1^3 - 11 * 1^2 + 17 - 6 = 1$$

So, 1 is not a root.

Let's try 2,

$$P(2) = 2 * 2^3 - 11 * 2^2 + 17 * 2 - 6 = 0$$

Hence, two is one of the roots of this equation.

Now, using the synthetic division method cubical equation can be written as $(x-2)(2x^2 - 7x + 3)=0$

The roots of $2x^2 - 7x + 3$ are $1/2, 3$.

The area of circles with radii 3, 2, $1/2$ are $9\pi, 4\pi, \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Their ratio of areas is $9:4:\frac{1}{4}$

$\Rightarrow 36:16:1$ is the ratio.

11. B

The number of item combinations Rohit and his friends could have ordered veg items were ${}^{16}C_2$

And the number of ways they could have ordered non-veg items would be 9C_3

The total number of item combinations that Rohit and his friends could choose from would then be ${}^{16}C_2 \times {}^9C_3$

Let's denote the number of veg gluten-free items as $V \sim G$ and the number of non-veg gluten-free items as $NV \sim G$

The total number of ways Bela and her friends could have chosen the items from the menu would then be $NV \sim G \times {}^{N \sim G}C_2$

We are given that Rohit and his friend's number of combinations were twelve times this value, giving us the relation

$${}^{16}C_2 \times {}^9C_3 = 12 \times NV \sim G \times {}^{N \sim G}C_2$$

$${}^{16}C_2 \times {}^9C_3 = 12 \times NV \sim G \times \frac{(N \sim G)(N \sim G - 1)}{2}$$

$$2^4 \times 3 \times 5 \times 7 = NV \sim G \times (N \sim G)(N \sim G - 1)$$

At this point, we need two consecutive numbers on the left-hand side to account for the $(N \sim G)(N \sim G - 1)$ on the right-hand side.

We know that $NV \sim G$ must be 9 or less; trying to put this value as values from 9 to 1 and get two consecutive digits from the remaining numbers,

The value of $NV \sim G$ can be 7, giving the value of $(N \sim G)(N \sim G - 1)$ as 16×15
OR

The value of $NV \sim G$ can be 8, giving the value of $(N \sim G)(N \sim G - 1)$ as 15×14

In either of these cases, the number of items on the menu not having gluten would be $7+16 = 8+15 = 23$ This means that 2 of the items on the menu will not have gluten in them.

Therefore, Option B is the correct answer.

12. C

In order for the line two be coincident, the ratio of the coefficients of the variables and the constants from both the equations must be the same.

$$\text{That is, } \frac{3}{q} = \frac{21}{r} = \frac{p}{-7}$$

Let's consider each option individually.
Checking through the easier options first.

Option A: p and q must have opposite signs

In order for $\frac{3}{a} = \frac{p}{-7}$ to be true, p and q must be of opposite signs as $pq = -21$
Hence, this option does not contradict the lines coinciding.

Option D: r and q must have the same signs

Similar to option A, for $\frac{3}{q} = \frac{21}{r}$ to hold true, q and r must be of the same signs.

Hence, this option too does not contradict the lines coinciding.

Option E: p cannot be zero

In order for q and r to have real values, the fractions $\frac{3}{q} = \frac{21}{r} = \frac{p}{-7}$ must not be zero.

Putting $p=0$ would give the value of $p/(-7)$ as 0, which would then not give real values of q and r
Hence, p can never be zero. This statement, too, does not contradict the two lines being coincident.

Now that A, D, and E are not our answers, we need to consider the more complex options.

Option B: r is the smallest amongst p, q, r

We would want $\frac{3}{q} = \frac{21}{r}$ to hold true.

If we take q and r to be positive, we must take p to be negative, in that case p would be negative and the smallest. So, in order to consider the possibility of r being the smallest, we must take q and r as negative values.

Now, with q and r negative, a smaller number would have a bigger magnitude or a bigger absolute value. We can try putting in values at this point to see if this would contradict the lines coinciding.

taking r as -21 and q as -3, we can take p as 7

These values would make the lines coincident, with r being the smallest value.

Hence, this options too does not necessarily contradict the lines coinciding.

Option C: q is the largest amongst p, q, r

Following the same logic as Option B, we cannot take q and r to be negative, as that would make p positive, making p the largest value.

Therefore, in order to consider the possibility of q being the largest, we must take positive values of q and r
Now, comparing $\frac{3}{q} = \frac{21}{r}$, if q is larger than r, then the numerator of the first term would be smaller than the

numerator of the second term, and the denominator of the first term would be larger than the denominator of the second term

Making the fraction $\frac{3}{q}$ strictly smaller than $\frac{21}{r}$

If this option is true, the lines can never coincide, as the ratios of the coefficient can never be equal.

Therefore, Option C would be the correct answer.

13. E

abbb can be written as $(1000*a+100*b+10*b+1*b) = 1000a+111b$

Now, we need to check to the necessary and sufficient condition for which $(1000a+111b)$ is divisible by a.

We know that $1000a$ is always divisible by 'a', hence, we need to check for which condition, $111b$ is always divisible by a.

$111b$ can be written as $(3*37*b) \Rightarrow (3b*37)$ must be divisible by a.

a can't be a factor of 37, which implies 'a' is a factor of $3b \Rightarrow 3b$ is divisible by 'a'

The correct option is E

14. B

It is given that ABC is a right-angled triangle, where $\angle B = 90^\circ$

Now, we can use Pythagoras theorem to calculate the value of AC, which is equal to $18^2 + 24^2 = 324 + 576 = 900 = 30 \text{ cm}$.

Here, we have drawn a common tangent MN, which is perpendicular to BC => Triangle MNC is a right-angled triangle.

It is also concluded that triangle MNC is similar to triangle ABC

Hence, the ratio of the sides of triangle MNC is the same as the ratio of the sides of triangle ABC.

Thus, AB: BC: AC = MN: NC: MC = 18:24:30 = 3: 4: 5

Let the length of side MN be $3x$ => the length of NC = $4x$, and the length of MC = $5x$.

In triangle MNC, the circle inside it is the in circle of triangle MNC.

Thus, the in radius (r) of the circle in triangle MNC = $(3x+4x-5x)/2 = x$.

We know that BC = BN+NC, where BN is the diameter of the first circle, which is equal to $2r = 2x$ (since, $r = x$), and NC = $4x$

$$\Rightarrow 24 = 2x+4x$$

$$\Rightarrow 6x = 24 \Rightarrow x = 4 \text{ cm.}$$

Hence, the radius of the circle ($x = r$) is 4 cm.

The correct option is B

15. A

Let the total number of jewels be X.

The jewels in the first box would be

$$X/3$$

The jewels in the second box would be $kX/5$

And the number of jewels in the third box is

$$66$$

The jewels of the second and third boxes should add up to $2X/3$ jewels, giving us the relation.

$$\frac{kX}{5} + 66 = \frac{2X}{3}$$

$$66 = \frac{X(10-3k)}{15}$$

$$X(10-3k) = 2 \times 3^2 \times 5 \times 11$$

We are given that k is a positive integer.

Taking $k = 1$, we get $(10 - 3k)$ to be 7, which is not present on the right-hand side.

Taking $k = 2$, we get $(10 - 3k)$ to be 4, which is again not present on the right-hand side.

Taking $k = 3$, we get $(10 - 3k)$ to be 1, which is possible on the right-hand side and would give the value for X to be 990.

Taking any further value of k would give a negative value of $(10 - 3k)$, which would not be possible.

Therefore, the king must have had 990 jewels.

Hence, Option A is the correct answer.

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16. E

Let the price of one kg of potato be P, one kg of cabbage be C, and one kg of onion be O.

we are given the equations,

$$5C + 4P = 80 \quad (i)$$

$$4C + 5O = 93 \quad (ii)$$

In equation (ii), we get 3 as the unit digit on the right-hand side. This is only possible with 8 + 5 on the left-hand side.

So, the unit place value of C must be 2, which means that C can have values 2, 12, 22, 32, and so on. The value of O must be an odd number.

Using this information in equation (i), we can see that the value of 5C will always have 0 as its unit digit. Meaning that the value of 4P must also have its unit digit as zero.

This would tell that P is a multiple of 5.

4P can then only be 20, 40 or 60 for C to also have a positive integer value.

If P is 5, C would be 12, giving the value of O to be 9

If P is 10, C would be 8, and this is consistent with our criteria that the unit digit of C must be 2

If P is 15, C would be 4, which is again not consistent with the same criteria.

Therefore, the price of one kg of potato would be Rs. 5, one of of cabbage would be Rs. 12 and one kg of onion would be Rs. 9

Aman can buy a maximum of 11 kg of onions for Rs. 99, leaving him with Rs. 1

Therefore, Option E is the correct answer.

17. A

Let the price of one kg of potato be P, one kg of cabbage be C, and one kg of onion be O.

we are given the equations,

$$5C + 4P = 80 \quad (i)$$

$$4C + 5O = 93 \quad (ii)$$

In equation (ii), we get 3 as the unit digit on the right-hand side. This is only possible with 8 + 5 on the left-hand side.

So, the unit place value of C must be 2, which means that C can have values 2, 12, 22, 32, and so on. The value of O must be an odd number.

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If P is 10, C would be 8, and this is consistent with our criteria that the unit digit of C must be 2

If P is 15, C would be 4, which is again not consistent with the same criteria.

Therefore, the price of one kg of potato would be Rs. 5, one of cabbage would be Rs. 12, and one kg of onion would be Rs. 9

The question says that Aman buys only potatoes and onions. The money left after purchasing these must be less than Rs. 5 so that he cannot buy an additional kg of potatoes.

Now, we can buy a maximum of 10 kg of onions, which would cost us Rs. 90, forcing Aman to buy 2 kg of potatoes to meet the above conditions.

So, the number of kg of opinion bought can vary from 1 to 10, giving us a total of 10 possible scenarios. We need to check where the number of potatoes bought in kg outweighs the onions bought.

We see that when Aman buys 7 kg of onions, he also has to buy 7 kg of potatoes. So only when he buys 10, 9 and 8 kg of onions is the weight of onions bought more than the weight of the potatoes bought.

So, the probability that more onions are bought than potatoes would be $\frac{3}{10}$

Therefore, Option A is the correct answer.

Explanation [18 - 19]:

Here, we need to represent all the given data in a three sets venn-diagram that is Data Analytics (A), Database Handling (H), and Coding (C).

If we write all the data that is given in the table, we will get the following diagram:

Now we need to infer the characteristics of x , which can be concluded from the given information.

18. B

We know that $2 - x \geq 0$, hence the possible values of x is 0, 1, 2

It is also known that $x - 2 \geq 0$, which implies the possible values of x is 2, 3, 4,

Now, from both equation, the only common value of x is 2.

Hence, x can take only 2 as the value.

The correct option is B

19. C

p>

We know that $2 - x \geq 0$, hence the possible values of x is 0, 1, 2

It is also known that $x - 2 \geq 0$, which implies the possible values of x is 2, 3, 4,

Now, from both equation, the only common value of x is 2.

Hence, x can take only 2 as the value.

Now the total number of people who know atleast one of the three is $(x+4)+(2-x)+x+x+(6-x)+(3-x)+(x-2)=x+13=2+13=15$.

We know the total is 41 members. So, the number of people who don't know atleast 1 is $41-15=26$.

20. C

The first clue is the minimum value provided:

That is not one of the eleven values that we already have; this must mean that one of the missing values, A or B, must be 2

Since we are given that A is less than B, it must be A, which is equal to 2.

Now, writing down the twelve known numbers,

2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 21, 27, 29

we are also provided that the median is of the data set was 12, that would be possible if the value 12 was shifted from 6th position to 7th position.

This must mean that the other missing value would also be in the first 6 values of the data set, lying in the range $2 \leq B \leq 12$

Now, narrowing down our focus to the lower hinge, the value is given to be 6.5

The first six values would be 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and one unknown value

The lower hinge would be 6.5 only if the missing value appears after 7

Narrowing down the possible values of B to be 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

For the first question, of all the given options, only option C lies in this range and hence would be the answer.

Therefore, option C is the correct answer.

21. E

The first clue is the minimum value provided:

That is not one of the eleven values that we already have; this must mean that one of the missing values, A or B, must be 2

Since we are given that A is less than B, it must be A, which is equal to 2.

Now, writing down the twelve known numbers,

2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 21, 27, 29

we are also provided that the median of the data set was 12, which would be possible if the value 12 was shifted from the 6th position to the 7th position.

This must mean that the other missing value would also be in the first 6 values of the data set, lying in the range $2 \leq B \leq 12$

Now, narrowing down our focus to the lower hinge, the value is given to be 6.5

The first six values would be 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and one unknown value

The lower hinge would be 6.5 only if the missing value appears after 7

Narrowing down the possible values of B to be 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

In order to find the average work-experience of all the teachers, we must add up all the values adding up the known values we get

$$2+5+6+7+8+12+16+19+21+21+27+29 = 173$$

Looking at the options, the total sum of all 13 values must be

A: 156

B: 162.5

C: 169

D: 175.5

E: 182

The sum of 13 values can only be 182 of all the given options, which would be the case when B is 9

Therefore, option E is the correct answer.

22. C

That is not one of the eleven values that we already have; this must mean that one of the missing values, A or B, must be 2

Since we are given that A is less than B, it must be A, which is equal to 2.

Now, writing down the twelve known numbers,

2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 21, 27, 29

we are also provided that the median of the data set was 12, which would be possible if the value 12 was shifted from the 6th position to the 7th position.

This must mean that the other missing value would also be in the first 6 values of the data set, lying in the range $2 \leq B \leq 12$

Now, narrowing down our focus to the lower hinge, the value is given to be 6.5
The first six values would be 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and one unknown value

The lower hinge would be 6.5 only if the missing value appears after 7
Narrowing down the possible values of B to be 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

In the context of the third question, we are given that the average of the 13 values was 15, meaning that the sum of the 13 values was 195

As we calculated previously, the sum with the value we had would be $173 + B$

we also have to add the mistaken value once more to this number to get 195 Let's take the unknown number to be U, giving us the equation

$$173 + B + U = 195$$

$$B + U = 22$$

Where B must be one of 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12

And U must be one of 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 21, 27, 29

trying to substitute the values of B into the equation, the only value which yields valid values for both B and U would be 10

Therefore, Option C is the correct answer.

Explanation [23 - 25]:

It is given that the runs in any over is an integer. So, the run rate multiplied by overs should give us an integer. $1 \leq N - 2 < N + 6 \leq 20$

The range of N is [3, 14].

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After N overs, the run rate is given as 7.43. So, $7.43 * N$ has to be an integer. Let's try putting all the possible values N and see where we get an integer.

$$3 * 7.43 = 22.29$$

$$4 * 7.43 = 29.72$$

$$5 * 7.43 = 36.15$$

$$6 * 7.43 = 44.58$$

$$7 * 7.43 = 52.01$$

Here, we got an integer; since the run rate is reduced to 2 decimal points, We can not get an exact integer.

So, N can be 7. Let's also check the remaining possible values of N.

$$8 * 7.43 = 59.44$$

$$9 * 7.43 = 66.87$$

$$10 * 7.43 = 74.3$$

$$11 * 7.43 = 81.73$$

$$12 * 7.43 = 89.16$$

$$13 * 7.43 = 96.59$$

$$14 * 7.43 = 102.02$$

N can also be 14.

If $N=14$, the $(N+2) * 8.11 = 16 * 8.11$ should also be an integer. But it is 129.76. So, N is not 14. The only possible value is 7.

$$N - 2 \text{ --- } 8.0 = 5 * 8 = 40$$

$$N \times 7.43 = 52.01$$

$$N+2 \times 8.11 = 9 \times 8.11 = 72.99$$

$$N+4 \times 8.45 = 11 \times 8.45 =$$

$$92.95$$

$$N+6 \times 8.08 = 13 \times 8.08 = 105.04$$

Every number is almost an integer, so N will be 7.

Now, let's calculate the runs scored in each of these overs.

After five overs, the score is 40

After seven overs, the score is 52

So, the sum of scores in 6 and 7 overs is 12. They have to score a minimum of 6 in an over. So, 6 is the sixth over, and 6 in the seventh over.

After the 9th over, the score was 73. They scored 21 in the 8th and 9th over.

After the 11th over, the score was 93, they scored 20 in the 10th and 11th.

After the 13th over, the score was 105, they scored 12 in the 12th and 13th over.

23. A

The lowest number of runs is scored in 6, 7, 12, and 13 overs. So, 7 is the correct answer.

24. D

We know the runs scored in every pair of options except Option D. So, only option D could be the answer.

25. A

The lowest number of runs is scored in 6, 7, 12, and 13 overs. So, 7 is the correct answer.

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Explanation [26 - 28]:

Tabulating the coupons and the respective minimum & maximum discounts on minimum spend as below-

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From the table, we can infer that

Coupon A can be availed only when someone spends a minimum amount of Rs. 1200 and he will obtain a flat discount of Rs. 250.

Coupon B can be availed only when someone spends a minimum amount of Rs. 500 such that he will get a discount of 15% on it which is Rs. 75 and a maximum discount of Rs. 300 can be given when he spends amount greater than or equal to Rs. 2000.

Coupon C can be availed only when someone spends a minimum amount of Rs. 600 and he will obtain a flat discount of Rs. 100.

Coupon D can be availed only when someone spends a minimum amount of Rs. 250 such that he will get a discount of 10% on it which is Rs. 25 and a maximum discount of Rs. 100 can be given when he spends amount greater than or equal to Rs. 1000.

Coupon E can be availed only when someone spends a minimum amount of Rs. 200 and he will obtain a flat discount of Rs. 50.

26. E

In this question, it is given that four customers used four different discount coupons for their respective transactions in such a way that they obtained a total discount of Rs. 710.

Let us assume that coupon A was not used, then the four customers can get a maximum discount of $(300+100+100+50) = \text{Rs. } 550$

From the observation, we see that the sum of maximum discounts if all 5 coupons are used is $(250+300+100+100+50) = \text{Rs. } 800$

Therefore, to get a discount of Rs. 710 only one coupon that we can skip is Coupon E because in all other cases, the total discount will be less than Rs. 710

Hence, Option E is the correct answer.

27. B

Rs. 50.

In this question, it is given that four customers used four different discount coupons for their respective transactions in such a way that nobody used any discount coupon sub-optimally. (A discount coupon is used sub-optimally if using another discount coupon could have resulted in a higher discount for the same transaction.)

We need to find the the minimum combined spend (before applying of any discount) For that, we starts checking for the minimum amount that needs to be spend.

From the table, we know that we can avail coupon E by spending Rs. 200 so we use this and get flat discount of Rs. 50 and we cannot get more discount by spending this amount.

Next, we check for coupon D(as, it requires 2nd lowest minimum spend)

If we spend Rs. 250 and use coupon D, we get only Rs. 25 as a discount, but if we use coupon E for the same amount, we can get Rs. 50 flat discount. (using a discount sub-optimally) so we have to spend a minimum of Rs. 500 so that we get a discount of Rs.50, but now again, we see that by spending Rs. 500, we can get a better discount by using Coupon B.

So, now we will use coupon B for Rs. 500 spending.

Till now, we have used coupons E and B (we can't use these coupons now, also we cannot use coupon D)

We need to use 4 coupons so using remaining 2 coupons (A and C) by spending a amount of Rs. 1200 and Rs. 600 for coupon A and coupon C respectively.

Hence, the minimum combined spend is $200 + 500 + 1200 + 600 = \text{Rs. } 2500$

Option B is the correct answer.

Decision Making

29. A

Option A is the best option. It suggests a direct consequence that could negatively impact Sharda's employment and financial stability. Sharing the information with Vimla could risk her current job if Mr. Singh were to find out and decide to terminate her employment. This potential risk could dissuade Sharda from sharing the information.

Option B doesn't provide a strong reason for Sharda to avoid telling Vimla about the ring. Even if Vimla didn't do her job perfectly, she might still want to know that the ring was found and that she was wrongly accused of theft. Therefore, this option doesn't strongly dissuade Sharda from sharing the information with Vimla.

Option C is not the best because while it's true that Vimla knows she didn't steal anything, she doesn't know that the ring was found and that her innocence could be proven. Therefore, this information would indeed be new to her. However, this option does not provide a strong reason for Sharda to withhold the information from Vimla.

Option D doesn't directly relate to the situation with Vimla and the ring. It's more about Sharda's personal circumstances and her relationship with Mr. Singh.

Option E is not the best because it actually provides a reason for Sharda to tell Vimla about the ring, as it shows that Vimla has been helpful and supportive to her in the past. It doesn't provide a reason for Sharda to keep the information to herself.

30. E

Option E is the best option here. Sharda's goal is to help Vimla rebuild her reputation and recover from the damage caused by the ring incident. Among the options, Option E directly addresses the root cause of Vimla's dismissal by informing her employers that the theft accusation was false. This action restores Vimla's credibility and potentially helps her regain her lost jobs.

Option A: This could potentially lead to conflict with Mr Singh and might not necessarily help Vimla. There's also a risk that Mr. Singh could terminate Sharda's employment as a result of the confrontation.

Option B: This might provide Vimla with some satisfaction, but it's not guaranteed to help her regain her lost jobs. It could also lead to further conflict with Mr Singh.

Option C: This could help spread the news about the ring, but it might not reach the people who terminated Vimla's employment. Therefore, it might not be as effective in helping Vimla regain her job.

Option D: Quitting her job and asking Mr. Singh to hire Vimla might not help, as Mr. Singh has already dismissed Vimla and may not reinstate her due to distrust. Additionally, this action does not address the broader issue of Vimla's tarnished reputation in the community.

Therefore, Option E is the best answer.

31. A

Let's evaluate each option:

Option A: This would best minimize the chance of employers suspecting their domestic workers of theft in the future. A daily search could serve as a deterrent for potential theft and provide a sense of security for the employers.

Option B: This might discourage employers from terminating workers without solid proof of theft, but it doesn't directly address the issue of suspicion or prevent theft accusations from arising in the first place.

Option C: This might help track down a worker in case of a confirmed theft, but it doesn't prevent suspicions of theft or protect workers from being wrongly accused.

Option D: This could potentially prevent some false theft accusations by finding misplaced items, but it doesn't completely eliminate the chance of employers suspecting their domestic workers of theft.

Option E: This might discourage employers from making hasty accusations without proof, but it doesn't prevent the initial suspicion or accusation of theft. It also puts the burden of proof on the worker, which might not always be possible.

32. A

Option A will best dissuade Nalini from declining the bonus. This option suggests that Shalini is known to make comments that can be perceived as insensitive, and this understanding could dissuade Nalini from declining the bonus because it frames Shalini's comment as a characteristic of Shalini's communication style rather than a personal critique of Nalini's performance. Therefore, Nalini might see that the bonus is indeed a recognition of her hard work and not just a result of favouritism.

Option B: This doesn't provide a compelling reason for Nalini to accept the bonus. Shalini's confrontational nature with her boss is unrelated to Nalini's performance or the validity of the bonus.

Option C: This doesn't directly address Shalini's comment that the bonus is more about favouritism than performance. While it highlights Nalini's achievement, it doesn't counter Shalini's claim and, thus, may not effectively dissuade Nalini from declining the bonus.

Option D: This could potentially make Nalini more inclined to decline the bonus, as it implies that the bonus is given to loyalists. However, it doesn't directly address Nalini's concerns about the fairness of the bonus distribution.

Option E: This is more about Shalini's past and her relationship with her previous boss. It doesn't provide a direct reason for Nalini to keep her bonus. It might make Nalini question Shalini's judgement, but it doesn't validate Nalini's performance or the bonus she received.

33. E

Option E is the best thing she could do to normalize her relationship with her teammates. It is the most direct and constructive approach. By addressing the issue openly, Nalini can express her feelings, clarify any misunderstandings, and work towards a resolution. It's important to maintain open lines of communication in a team, and this approach allows for that.

Option A: This is a passive approach, which might not resolve the issue and could even allow misunderstandings to persist.

Option B: This could lead to conflict and doesn't address the issue with the rest of the team.

Option C: This could help improve relationships, but it might not be effective given the current circumstances. Since her teammates have been avoiding informal interactions with her, they might not be open to attending such a gathering.

Option D: This could create a negative environment, and it is unprofessional. It's unlikely to improve her relationship with her teammates.

34. B

Option B is the best course of action for Nalini regarding Shalini's inclusion in the team. It encourages open communication and negotiation, which are key to resolving conflicts and misunderstandings in a professional setting. Nalini can explain the project's importance and how Shalini's experience and skills can contribute to its success.

Option A: This could potentially escalate the situation and create further tension between Nalini and Shalini.

Option C: This undermines Nalini's authority and autonomy as the chosen leader for the project.

Option D: This could escalate the situation and might not resolve the issue at hand. It's generally better to try and resolve conflicts directly with the person involved before involving HR.

Option E: This might not be effective because it doesn't address Shalini's concerns or her desire to lead the team. Forcing Shalini to join the team without addressing these issues could lead to a hostile work environment and might not contribute to the success of the project.

35. D

Let's look at each option individually.

Option A: This wouldn't help Raman decide to take on the project. Just because he's completed some projects ahead of schedule in the past doesn't guarantee he can finish this one within the three-month timeframe.

Option B: While Raman could request Flying Groceries and Suraj to allocate more resources to the project, there's no mention that a lack of resources is the reason for the six-month completion timeframe. Other factors may contribute to the project's duration, even with additional resources and manpower.

Option C: Even if Suraj opposes the project upon learning Raman would leave the team, that isn't a reason for Raman to undertake the project knowing he won't see it through to completion. Not starting the project might be better for Flying Groceries than initiating it and then losing the project lead halfway through.

Option D: Among the given options, this would be the best choice. Although Raman's subordinates' past record of completing projects doesn't guarantee success with this project, it demonstrates their competence. Even if Raman leaves halfway through, capable team members could assume his role and finish the project.

Option E: This wouldn't be a valid reason. It would strain Raman with demanding academic requirements from the Business school he's attending, and it wouldn't align with a company's work ethic. Flying Groceries might not want to rely on a former employee who might not fully commit to project completion.

Therefore, of all the given options, Option D would best assist Raman in deciding to take on the role of project leader.

36. C

Let's evaluate each option individually.

Option A: Attempting to mend personal relations with Suraj through unofficial means might soften the hard feelings between them, but it's not an appropriate way to obtain the required documentation. Additionally, there's no guarantee that writing an apology letter would improve relations or help Raman reach his goal.

Option B: Although more official and on-point compared to option A, this still doesn't guarantee a smooth process for Raman to obtain the required documentation from Flying Groceries. Even with official channels, Suraj might delay the process or downplay his responsibilities given the past conflict. While worth considering, we should look for a better option.

Option C: This would be the best course of action for Raman. Making it HR's responsibility to provide the valid documentation of Rajat's work removes the direct involvement of Suraj, eliminating the potential conflict between Suraj and Raman.

Option D: Asking a former colleague who lacks authority or power in the matter wouldn't significantly impact or expedite the process. Option C is a superior choice to this.

Option E: Similar to option A, trying to mend personal relations with Suraj is not an appropriate means for Raman to obtain his documentation. Therefore, this option can be eliminated.

Overall, Option C appears to be the most effective and appropriate course of action for Raman to obtain the necessary documentation.

Therefore, option C is the correct answer.

37. B

Let's evaluate each option individually.

Option A: This is not a valid option. Not only would documentation made from Raman's memory lack accuracy, but it also wouldn't be verified by the employer or the previous organization. This would render the documentation useless for his internship placement or any other purpose he might need them for.

Option B: This would be a valid option. Raman's ex-teammates could provide more accurate data regarding his additional contributions. Documentation of additional roles undertaken coming from employees within the organization would be more official and credible than if Raman were the sole source, as presented in option A.

Option C: Taking an organization's internal matters to social media is rarely a valid option. Such matters should be handled professionally and not made public. Additionally, highlighting his additional responsibilities on social media provides no way of verifying the validity of the information presented there.

Option D: Given the context of the disagreement they had when Raman left his job at Flying Groceries, which left a sour taste between them, there is no guarantee that Suraj would agree to provide Raman with additional documentation needed for him to secure a desired role.

Option E: Since the Chief Supply Chain officer is recently recruited, he might not be familiar with the additional responsibilities Raman took on. Thus, he wouldn't be a reliable source for Raman to obtain documentation listing his additional responsibilities during his time at Flying Groceries.

Hence, Option B would be the best way for Raman to back the additional roles he took during his time at Flying Groceries.

Therefore, Option B is the correct answer.

38. B

Here's the corrected version:

We are clearly given in the passage that it was not just Prabhu's affordability that made him popular, but also his punctuality and reliability. We are not told about any price hikes by Prabhu's competition after the lockdown, so we cannot be assured if Prabhu was charging less, equal to, or more than his competitors.

Further, the question asks us about what factors would help Prabhu's regular customers in accepting the fare increase. The regular customers, which were the solo females and the official trips by the steel plant, would value punctuality and reliability over a price hike.

Let's evaluate each option to see which one would suit our needs best:

Option A: This option accounts for the general price increase or a simpler version of inflation within the town. Even if it were true, this does not mean it would be enough for Prabhu's regular customers to accept his hiked prices. There might be other drivers who might have also increased their prices, but not to such an extent as Prabhu.

Option B: This helps Prabhu's regular customers in accepting his increased prices. Although they would be paying more than necessary, they would be sure about the safety and punctuality with Prabhu, which is important for solo female travelers and official trips to the steel plant.

Option C: Although the people of the town might be sympathetic towards Prabhu, they cannot sustain paying increased prices just out of sympathy for a service they might get cheaper elsewhere.

Option D: This is an additional service that Prabhu provides. Although this might keep regular customers coming back to him for servicing their cars, it does not help his case for increasing his prices and the customers accepting them.

Option E: This is irrelevant to the concerns of his regular customers, other than those on official trips from the steel plant. Offering a luxurious name or a service used by top officials might attract some higher officials and individuals, but the increased prices take away the affordability factor associated with Prabhu, acting as a deterrent for his regular customers.

Although some of these options were close, option B clearly resonates with the reason for Prabhu's popularity as given in the questions, and thus would be the best fit.

Therefore, Option B is the correct answer.

39. B

Our aim with this question is for Prabhu to somehow retain his revenue flow. Let's consider each option individually.

Option A: This does not work in Prabhu's favor. Reducing his prices might bring some of his customers back, but it's uncertain whether those returning customers would compensate for the revenue loss caused by the reduced prices.

Option B: Giving a 50% discount would also drastically impact his revenue sources. The customers coming back might not be able to compensate for the money he would lose out by offering this discount.

Option D: Although he is the first choice for women travelling alone, with his competitors offering lower prices, some female customers would be hesitant to pay a premium on top of already high prices for Prabhu's service. This decision might instead have a negative impact on his revenue flow.

Option E: Similar to option D, this too, can be eliminated using the same logic. Charging a premium on top of already increased prices might discourage the steel plant from availing his services.

Through the method of elimination of wrong choices, we are left with only one option.

Option C: Stick to his increased prices. Although not very obvious at first, this would be the best action of all the given options. We are given that the competitors offering cheaper services are tardy and unreliable, which would bring his regular customers, traveling in families, back to him due to the feature that attracted them in the first place: reliability and punctuality. Until then, he can sustain the bookings done by female travelers and the official trips by the steel plant.

Therefore, Option C is the correct answer.

40. B

The key thing to understand here is that Saroj is a new person in town. He is not familiar with the reliability of Prabhu's service. The reason given by Prabhu should be enough to convince him to trust Prabhu over Manoj, both of whom are equal in his eyes at the moment.

Let's look at the options individually.

Option A: Talking about the economic side of things might help Saroj, being a CFO, understand that the model offered by Manoj would actually not be sustainable and the prices would go up sometime down the line. But this does not mean that they cannot use the service until it's available at a lower price. As soon as Manoj increases his prices, someone (the market) would come again with lower prices to make Manoj go out of business, and they can avail the lower prices again. So this reasoning does not help Prabhu in convincing Saroj; the steel plant can always keep choosing the lowest prices available.

Option C: Although Ms. Nidhi Tawde might vouch for Prabhu's services' safety and reliability, she is as much a stranger to Saroj as Prabhu. Although her statement might add one perspective in favour of Prabhu, this would not be enough to convince Saroj of the positive aspects of Prabhu's services.

Option D: Although this might convince Saroj to choose Prabhu, this would not be a sustainable option. Not only would it hurt Prabhu, but as soon as Prabhu would want to increase his prices, Saroj would go back to other service providers who would be charging less.

Option E: Talking negatively about Manoj would not convince Saroj, as again, from Saroj's perspective, both Manoj and Prabhu are offering their services and would claim to be more reliable than the other.

The only way Saroj would be convinced would be if someone whom Saroj would find reliable vouched for Prabhu's reliability. With his reputation and his time working for the official trips for the steel plant, there would be a lot of employees who would have travelled with Prabhu and would be familiar with his reputation. If Prabhu asks Saroj to discuss with his colleagues, as suggested in option B, who would vouch for Prabhu over Manoj, Saroj would be convinced to keep using Prabhu's services even at a higher price.

Therefore, Option B is the correct answer.

41. B

Option B provides critical information for Vineeta's decision. Vineeta's brother is an SUV enthusiast, suggesting he has knowledge and experience with these vehicles. He is also a trusted source for this reason. His advice specifically warns her against Diplomatico cars, which directly impact the brand Shyam (from Balaji Motors) is promoting.

With this information, Vineeta can investigate the reasons behind her brother's negative perception of Diplomatico and look beyond the brand Shyam suggested and explore other SUV options available.

Option A highlights Vineeta's lack of knowledge about SUVs, but it doesn't directly influence the decision itself. Regardless of which brand she chooses, she'll need to research specific models.

Option C focuses on availability, not suitability. The waiting period might be inconvenient, but it doesn't eliminate SUVs as a whole.

Option D doesn't eliminate SUVs entirely. She might still choose one of the benefits, like cargo space, to outweigh the challenges of parking and manoeuvring.

Option E: A new dealership, even for a popular brand, doesn't tell Vineeta if they offer SUVs or if they'll be a better fit than a Diplomatico SUV. It introduces another variable but doesn't directly address the suggestion at hand.

42. D

Let us consider each of the pieces of information individually.

Option A: Happy with the Deal: While Vineeta might be happy, the error isn't her fault. Shyam still needs to recover the loss.

Option B: Software Complexity: This explains the mistake but doesn't excuse Vineeta from receiving an unintended benefit.

Option C: Wide Network & Potential Customers: Vineeta's extensive network translates to potential future sales for Balaji Motors. Upsetting her over a Rs. 19,000 mistake could jeopardise this benefit.

Option D: Brother's Knowledge: Vineeta's brother might question the mistake, but it doesn't prevent Shyam from asking for the money back. He might even advise her to return it to avoid future issues.

Option E: Potential Write-off: If Shyam can convince Diplomatico (the car manufacturer) to absorb the cost of the extended warranty, it eliminates the need to approach Vineeta altogether.

In essence, maintaining a good relationship with a valuable customer (C) and potentially getting reimbursed by Diplomatico (E) offer Shyam better ways to address the situation. This is why C and E are the most likely factors to prevent him from approaching Vineeta. Therefore, Option D is the correct answer.

43. B

Option B is the best rationale for Vineeta. Here's why:

Market Expectation: Vineeta might feel that for the price she paid for a high-end SUV, a free extended warranty is a reasonable expectation within the car dealership industry. This mistake simply fulfills that expectation she might have had.

Bargaining Leverage: By mentioning this common practice, Vineeta can initiate a negotiation with Shyam. She can argue that since the mistake resulted in a benefit she might have expected anyway, it can be considered a wash.

Option A- Price Comparison: Even if a similar SUV from Panther might have been cheaper without an extended warranty, it doesn't negate the fact that the warranty is now covering Vineeta's repairs.

Option C- Time Passed: The time gap doesn't change the fact that the mistake benefited Vineeta.

Option D is entirely focused on the past (she wasn't aware). It doesn't address the current situation or a potential solution.

Option E- Shyam's Need: This puts the responsibility on Shyam to ask for the money back, rather than Vineeta taking the initiative to return it, especially since the mistake benefitted her.

44. C

Option C is the best answer for the following reasons:

1) It weakens the alumni's leverage. If their success relies on ABC's reputation for quality graduates, they have a vested interest in upholding the school's standards, including a fair admissions process.

2) It shifts the power dynamic. By highlighting the alumni's need for ABC's reputation, the director can frame the conversation around cooperation for mutual benefit, rather than succumbing to pressure.

Option A highlights the alumni's importance. It emphasizes their role in attracting recruiters, potentially making the director feel pressured to appease them to maintain that connection.

Option B doesn't directly address the admissions issue. Guest faculty roles are separate from admissions decisions, and having alumni involved could even be seen as a positive sign of engagement.

Option D is a good option, but **option C** is even stronger. While it shows there's no precedent for alumni interference, it doesn't address the alumni's own motivations.

Option E shows the director hasn't given in before, but it doesn't address the current pressure. The alumni might be more forceful this time, and the director needs a reason to justify saying no again.

45. C

Option C is the best answer as the alumni's awareness of ABC's "retainable talent pool" directly addresses a key metric for many business school rankings: graduate employability. If alumni consistently return to recruit because ABC graduates stay with companies (low turnover), it demonstrates the school's effectiveness in producing valuable employees. This is a strong selling point for rankings that focus on placement success.

By focusing on alumni satisfaction with the quality of graduates, the director can shift the focus away from rankings that might not be as relevant to ABC's niche market and concentrate on maintaining the school's core strength - job placement.

Option A: This doesn't matter for rankings. Research is typically a factor for faculty-focused rankings, not those aimed at student placement.

Option B: Similar to A, student satisfaction might be a factor in some rankings, but it's not the main focus for placement-oriented rankings.

Option D: A quick placement record can be a positive for rankings that consider efficiency, but it's not the sole factor.

Option E: Past performance doesn't necessarily predict future results. However, it highlights the potential challenge of breaking into the top ranks.

46. D

Option D is the best answer because it directly ties placement, the students' primary goal, to class attendance. An 85% threshold is a significant hurdle, forcing students to prioritize attending classes. This incentivizes them to be physically present and potentially more engaged to meet the attendance requirement.

Option A: "Thank you" notes wouldn't incentivize attendance and might seem patronizing.

Option B: Financial penalties might demotivate students or create financial hardship. It wouldn't address the core issue of engagement.

Option C: While appreciating good faculty is a good idea, it doesn't directly address the student attendance issue.

Option E: Rewarding participation is a good long-term strategy, but it wouldn't immediately address the attendance problem.

47. A

Let us examine each piece of information individually.

Statement A highlights the potential frequency of needing repairs, making a mass replacement at Level 3 more appealing if a malfunction occurs.

Statement B emphasizes the domino effect of a single malfunction. Replacing all valves at Level 3 upon a malfunction can prevent further issues with neighboring valves.

Statement C: While a discount is always attractive, it doesn't directly address the justification for replacing all valves at Level 3 upon a single malfunction.

Statement D: Since Level 3 is the deepest and most challenging location, having GoValve, the specialists, readily available to perform the mass replacement after a malfunction becomes a significant advantage.

Statement E: This information (higher pressure risk near seabed) is generally relevant to blowout prevention but doesn't directly connect to the decision of replacing all valves at Level 3 upon malfunction. It focuses more on the overall risk of pressure buildup.

In conclusion, A (frequent malfunctions), B (domino effect on neighboring valves), and D (difficulty of Level 3 replacement) provide the most compelling reasons for DeepSea to accept the clause in the maintenance package, as they directly address the benefits of replacing all valves at Level 3 upon a single malfunction. So, Option A is the correct answer.

48. E

Let us consider the following statement: "A startup, SafeValve, has started importing a technologically superior brand of valves from abroad, *which boasts a significant reduction in gas leakage.*"

Now, if it was true that their existing valves are already following the strictest global industry standards of leakage protection their by ensuring their safety, it would undermine the main reason to switch to SafeValve. Therefore, Option E is the best answer.

Option A: Cost is a private concern, not a good public reason for rejection.

Option B focuses on DeepSea's existing relationship, not the new valves.

Option C downplays the new technology and doesn't address DeepSea's specific situation.

Option D, while could be considered a valid concern is not as strong of a reason as option E. Option E undermines the rationale behind the switch.

Verbal Ability & Logical Reasoning

50. B

Option B is the best fit for the blanks in the sentence based purely on grammatical and logical sense.

Feeling like a fake can be a sign of growth, and clinging too tightly to what feels like one's authentic self can hinder that growth. This statement suggests that sometimes, feeling out of place or like you're not being true to yourself can actually be a sign that you're growing and evolving. However, if you cling too tightly to your current sense of self, it could prevent you from embracing that growth.

This option fills in the blanks while maintaining the sentence's grammatical structure and logical coherence.

Option C may seem like a good fit at first glance. From a grammatical and idiomatic perspective, the phrase "behaving like a fake" is not a common idiom or phrase, and it doesn't quite convey a clear meaning. Also, the second part of the sentence suggests that clinging to one's authentic self can "support" growth. However, in the context of the sentence, this seems contradictory. If behaving like a fake is a sign of improvement, then clinging to one's authentic self would more likely hinder than support this improvement.

The alternative choices, which involve actions such as acting, performing, or operating like a fake, lack idiomatic coherence. Furthermore, they suggest ideas that either contradict each other or don't fit the context of personal growth.

51. B

Option B is the correct answer.

Option B, "generations, changed, other," is correct because it fits grammatically and contextually into the sentence. The term "generations" refers to people over time, "changed" indicates a transformation or evolution in perception or behaviour, and "other" refers to other individuals. So, the sentence "As generations evolved and eventually moved to cities, close proximity changed how we viewed and assessed each other" makes sense both grammatically and idiomatically.

Option A "civilization, enhanced, situation" is incorrect because "enhanced" implies improvement or augmentation, which doesn't necessarily follow from the close proximity of civilization. Also, "situation" is too vague in this context.

Option C, "culture, helped, life," is incorrect because "helped" implies assistance or facilitation, which is not necessarily a result of cultural evolution or urban migration. Also, "life" is too broad and doesn't fit well in this context.

Option D, "lives, destroyed, culture", is incorrect because "destroyed" implies a negative impact or destruction, which is not necessarily a result of the evolution of lives. Also, "culture" doesn't fit well in the context of assessing each other.

Option E, "people, helped, the nation", is incorrect because while "people" could fit in the first blank, "helped" doesn't necessarily follow from people moving to cities. Also, "nation" doesn't fit well in the context of assessing each other.

52. A

Option A is the correct answer.

Statement A and B are incorrect.

In Statement A, It should be changed to '*I shall be there at around 9: 00 a.m.*'

In Statement B, The correct sentence should be '*Keep off the grass.*'

Statements C,D and E are correct.

53. C

Option C is the correct answer.

Statements A,C and E are correct.

In Statement B, The subject "*Nobody*" is singular, so it should be followed by a singular verb ("*has*") instead of "*have*."

In Statement D, The subject *"Both of the mice"* is plural, so it should be followed by a plural verb (*"are"*) instead of *"is."*

In Statement F, The correct form should be *"The teacher told him and me to leave early."* The objective pronouns *"him"* and *"me"* are needed here.

54. C

Option C is the correct answer.

Statement B talks about the transition from computer mainframes to rooms and servers, which indicates an earlier stage.

Statement A talks about the ownership of these servers by companies, which likely occurred concurrently with the transition mentioned in statement B.

Statement D mentions the dominance of IBM and HP in providing chips for these servers, which suggests a subsequent stage.

Statement C discusses the role of Intel in the server market by the mid-2000s, indicating further development.

Statement E introduces Amazon's entry into the server market, marking a more recent development, making it the last in the sequence.

55. A

B-A-D-C-E is the most logically coherent order.

Statement B acknowledges the person's struggles but immediately offers a hopeful outlook by suggesting there's an explanation. This sets the context for the discussion to be followed.

Statement A logically follows B as it introduces the possibility of past experiences impacting the person's current state. It doesn't jump straight to trauma but presents it as a potential reason.

Now, In statement D, a specific example of past trauma (sudden death) is linked to a current fear (anxiety about loved ones' health). This builds on A by providing a concrete illustration.

Statement C then encourages the person to understand their reactions rather than blaming themselves. It follows logically after exploring the possibility of past trauma and its connection to current struggles.

Statement E circles back to the initial idea of strength (from statement B). It highlights the person's resilience by acknowledging the strength they've already shown in overcoming past challenges.

This order creates a supportive and logical flow. It starts with hope, explores reasons behind the struggles, encourages self-compassion, and ends by reinforcing the person's inner strength.

56. D

Option D is the correct answer.

The paragraph discusses the interplay between fear and desire, suggesting that they are closely linked and influence human actions. It emphasizes that fear and desire are intertwined, with fear often driving actions just as desire does. This suggests that both fear and desire play a significant role in guiding human behaviour, indicating that option b) *"The interplay of fear and desire helps in guiding one's action"* is the best conclusion. While other statements in the paragraph also hold some truth, option b) encompasses the broader idea conveyed by the paragraph.

57. E

Option E is the correct answer.

In the first paragraph, the author introduces intriguing and somewhat humorous rules of thumb, such as avoiding self-proclaimed thought leaders and distrusting sockless men. These rules pique the reader's curiosity and create interest.

The second paragraph expands upon the topic, providing a more detailed critique of employee appreciation days and their lack of genuine appreciation. Thus, the second paragraph elaborates on the initial interest generated by the first paragraph.

Therefore, The first paragraph evokes interest, the second paragraph elaborates.

58. E

Option E is the correct answer.

The passage emphasises that recognising our ignorance, or what we don't know, has been a significant discovery. This awareness of ignorance is what drives us to learn more, which aligns with option E. The other options, while they might seem related, do not capture the main idea of the passage as accurately as option e does.

59. A

Option A is the correct answer.

The paragraph emphasizes that simply accumulating knowledge is not enough. It suggests that one must think over the information for oneself and compare every truth with every other truth to fully possess the knowledge and get it into one's power. This process of thinking over and comparing truths can be interpreted as reflecting on the information. Therefore, *if she wants to master knowledge, she must reflect on the information.*

The other options (B, C, D, E) are not necessarily true based on the given paragraph. Reflecting on the information is presented as a necessary condition for mastering knowledge, but it's not stated as a sufficient condition. That is, while reflection is necessary, the paragraph does not guarantee that reflection alone will result in mastery of knowledge. Therefore, statements suggesting that reflection will definitely lead to mastery (Options B and E), that lack of mastery implies lack of reflection (Option C), or that mastery implies reflection (Option D) are not necessarily true based on the given information.

60. D

Option D is the correct answer.

The passage emphasizes the difference between the experiences of sportspersons and those of the fans who watch them. While fans may feel a connection to the sports they watch, they do not fully comprehend the highs and lows experienced by the athletes. The passage also highlights that, unlike athletes, most people do not have their work scrutinized by the public, and they are not as emotionally invested in their day-to-day jobs.

Therefore, while fans can empathize with athletes, they can never truly understand their experiences. This is why option d) is the best summary of the passage. It captures the essence of the disconnect between athletes' experiences and fans' perceptions.

61. E

Option E is the correct answer.

The theme of the poem revolves around the woman's feeling of alienation. This is conveyed through the imagery of her inability to find her reflection in the mirror, symbolizing a disconnect with herself or her identity. The imagery of the "darkened room", the "mirror" where she can't see her reflection, and the "drunken yellow flames" of the oil lamp that "know where her lonely body hides" all suggest a sense of isolation and alienation.

62. A

Option A is the correct answer.

The lines "the drunken yellow flames/know where her lonely body hides" use the oil lamp's "drunken yellow flames" metaphor to symbolize a source of light and warmth in the woman's solitude. The flames are described as "knowing" where her "lonely body hides", suggesting they illuminate her in her isolation, making her visible even in her loneliness.

This interpretation aligns with the overall theme of the poem, which revolves around the woman's feeling of alienation and solitude.

63. E

Option E is the correct answer.

The statement in option E aligns with the passage, which discusses how humans tend to compress complex reality into abbreviated heuristics and how storytelling evolved to help overcome these reductive instincts. The passage mentions that early stories were even more reductive, compressing real-life flux into archetypal moral messages. Thus, the best interpretation regarding reductive instincts is that they led to the compression of complex reality into moral messages.

64. C

Option C is the correct answer.

A realist novel aims to depict life as it is, including the complexities, uncertainties, and unpredictability of human existence. By presenting *"innumerable conditions made meaningful only in unpredictable moments,"* the novel captures the intricacies of human experience and the multifaceted nature of decision-making. This approach allows the reader to engage with the story on a deeper level, as it mirrors the complexities of real life and presents a more authentic representation of human behaviour and choices.

65. E

Option E is the correct answer.

Statement A can be inferred from the sentences, *"Beauty can be manners, also a socially contingent set of traits."* and *"Whatever power decides that beauty is, it must always be more than reducible to a single thing."*

Statement B can be inferred from the sentences, *"Beauty is a wonderful form of capital in a world that organizes everything around gender and then requires a performance of gender that makes some of its members more equal than others."* and *"Beauty serves many useful functions for our economic system."*

Statement C can be inferred from the sentence, *"Whatever power decides that beauty is, it must always be more than reducible to a single thing."*

Statement D can be inferred from the passage but not from a particular sentence.

Statement E cannot be inferred from the passage, and hence it is the correct answer.

66. C

Option C is the correct answer.

Option C captures the idea that beauty is initially seen as a blessing or something desirable, but in order to attain it, individuals may feel compelled to conform to certain standards or ideals, hence converting to those standards.

67. C

The civilization-barbarism axis, as described in the passage, is best represented by option C: *"It is how you behave, not who you are, that makes you acceptable."*

This axis is used by conservatives who view most favourably the institutions that they believe constrain and guide people toward civilized behaviour, and they view most unfavourably those people who they see as trying to tear down such institutions. Therefore, it's more about behaviour (civilized vs barbaric) than about who the person is.

Options A, B, D and E cannot be inferred from the passage.

68. B

Option B best explains the author's use of the term "moral frames:" *"The frames define what the believer believes as right or wrong."*

According to the passage, moral frames are simplified perspectives that people use to interpret political issues. Based on the axis of the frame (oppressor-oppressed, civilization-barbarism, or liberty-coercion), they create a sense of right and wrong, favourable and unfavourable. These frames guide the believer's views and judgments about different groups and issues.

Option A is incorrect because the passage doesn't suggest that moral frames give believers the right to question others' behaviours.

Option C is not correct, as the passage clearly explains the concept of moral frames, indicating they can be rationally explained.

Option D is incorrect because the passage doesn't state that what is right to the believer is wrong to those who do not share that belief.

Option E is incorrect because the passage doesn't suggest that moral frames make it easy for the believer to declare others as wrong.

69. A

The best conclusion from the passage is option A.

The passage emphasizes the importance of understanding different moral frames or axes (oppressor-oppressed, civilization-barbarism, liberty-coercion) that people use to form their political views. By learning these "languages", one can better understand others' perspectives, even if they don't agree with them.

Option B is incorrect. The passage doesn't suggest that all controversial issues can be simplified into the three axes, but rather these axes represent different perspectives.

Option C is incorrect. The passage doesn't state that our assumptions lead to our dominant axis, but it does suggest that understanding these axes can help us understand others' perspectives.

Option D is incorrect. While the passage does mention that certain problems might be better understood through a specific axis, it doesn't claim that issues can be solved by looking at them from the right axis and questioning assumptions.

Option E is incorrect. The passage doesn't state that most problems are caused by applying the wrong axis to a particular problem but rather that different perspectives might be more or less applicable in different situations.

70. E

Option E is the correct answer.

According to the passage, this statement is not true about an ignorant mind. The passage describes how an ignorant mind is filled with clutter of irrelevant or misleading experiences, theories, facts, etc., and it emphasizes the tendency of the ignorant mind to be unaware of its own limitations and to succumb to illusionary pattern detection and theorizing without robust evidence. However, it doesn't suggest that an ignorant mind often fuels scepticism. Instead, it suggests that the clutter in the ignorant mind can lead to situations that are embarrassing, unfortunate, or dangerous.

Options A, B, C and D could be inferred from the passage and hence true.

71. D

Option D is the correct answer.

This choice reflects the author's idea that we tend to create and spread beliefs, even when they're not entirely accurate because we often don't realize our own ignorance. The passage emphasizes how our minds can be cluttered with misleading information, leading us to accept and share beliefs that may not be true. So, when the author says "we are all engines of misbelief," it means that we have a natural inclination to form and spread beliefs that can be misleading or inaccurate.

72. B

Option B is the correct answer.

This statement aligns closely with the author's emphasis on the potential for misbelief due to our inclination towards pattern recognition and theorizing. The passage discusses how our ability to recognize patterns can lead to the acceptance of misleading or irrelevant information as accurate knowledge. Therefore, being aware that the patterns we perceive may not always represent reality is in line with the author's argument about the nature of ignorance and disbelief.

The author would not agree with options A, C, D, and E.

Hint: We can eliminate options A, C, D and E based on extreme and wrong answer options.

73. B

Option B cannot be exactly concluded. While the passage discusses the concept of herd immunity, it does not explicitly state that our survival as a community is largely based on it. Therefore, it could be argued that option B cannot be exactly inferred from the passage.

Option A can be inferred from: “Any given vaccine can fail to produce immunity in an individual, and some vaccines, like the influenza vaccine, are less effective than others.”

Option C can be inferred from: “But a vaccinated person surrounded by bodies that host disease is left vulnerable to vaccine failure or fading immunity.”

Option D can be inferred from: “The unvaccinated person is protected by the bodies around her, bodies through which disease is not circulating.”

Option E can be inferred from: “But when enough people are vaccinated with even a relatively ineffective vaccine, viruses have trouble moving from host to host and cease to spread...”

74. E

Option E is the correct answer. The author mentions that “Contributions to this bank are donations to those who cannot or will not be protected by their own immunity,” which implies that vaccination protects those who may not have access to it.

Option A is incorrect as the passage does not suggest that vaccination creates a reserve of immunity within a person’s immune system.

Option B is incorrect as the passage does not state that when somebody is vaccinated, it is a deposit of protection against a particular disease.

Option C is incorrect as the passage does not mention that different vaccines contribute to a diverse portfolio of immune defences.

Option D is incorrect. While the passage suggests that vaccination provides a safety net, it does not explicitly state that this is why vaccination is considered a “banking of immunity.”

75. E

Option E is the correct answer.

Based on the last paragraph of the passage, the author would best agree with Option E.

The author emphasizes the interconnectedness of immunity within a community and the role each individual plays in maintaining it. The author states, “We are protected not so much by our own skin, but by what is beyond it,” and “Those of us who draw on collective immunity owe our health to our neighbors,” which underscores the importance of each individual’s role in a community’s health.

Option A is incorrect, as the passage does not specifically discuss the need for communities to come together during health crises.

Option B is incorrect as the author does not explicitly mention the importance of expressing gratitude to those who contribute to herd immunity.

Option C is incorrect. While the passage implies the importance of vaccination, it does not state that it is an ethical obligation of individuals.

Option D is incorrect. In the passage, the author does not describe immunity as transactional.

General Knowledge

Essay

101. e

Technology thrives on bold visions of the future. Yet, these predictions often fall short, not because of flawed models or a lack of imagination, but due to a critical oversight: humility. We underestimate the inherent uncertainty of the future.

Traditionally, inaccurate predictions have been blamed on faulty models or a lack of creativity. However, the future is not a pre-determined script. Unexpected breakthroughs, societal shifts, and unforeseen events can all drastically alter the technological landscape.

The power lies in acknowledging this inherent uncertainty. By embracing humility, we can transcend from declarations of absolute certainty. Instead, predictions should be presented as possibilities, outlining potential outcomes alongside the boundaries of our knowledge. This approach empowers us with a more comprehensive understanding of the future, fostering adaptability and resilience in the face of the unknown.

Humility isn't a barrier to innovation; it's a catalyst. By recognizing the boundaries of our foresight, we open ourselves to a broader spectrum of possibilities, fostering a more imaginative and adaptable approach to technological advancement. This shift in perspective not only enhances our predictions but also paves the way for continuous growth and learning.

In essence, embracing the inherent uncertainty of the future, with a healthy dose of humility, is the key to making tech predictions a more meaningful and insightful tool.

102. e

The spread of fake news on social media platforms poses a significant threat to public discourse and informed decision-making. While implementing stricter regulations might seem like a clear solution, the issue is nuanced.

On one side, we can argue that social media companies prioritize engagement over truth, allowing fake news to flourish. Regulations could mandate fact-checking mechanisms and impose penalties for knowingly spreading misinformation. This approach aims to make platforms more accountable and incentivise them to tackle the problem.

However, a good case can also be made that such regulations could stifle free speech and create a slippery slope of censorship. Defining "fake news" objectively proves difficult, and regulations could be misused to silence dissenting voices. Additionally, enforcing regulations across borders and diverse platforms presents logistical challenges.

Perhaps the answer lies in a multi-pronged approach. Regulations can provide a framework, but fostering media literacy among users is equally important. Educational initiatives can equip people to critically evaluate information and identify fake news. Additionally, supporting independent fact-checking organizations and encouraging collaboration between platforms can further strengthen the fight against misinformation.

Ultimately, curbing the proliferation of fake news requires a collective effort. While regulations can play a role, a successful solution hinges on empowering users and fostering a responsible online environment.

FundaMakers

103. e

The proverb reminds us of the constant struggle to prioritize in life. It emphasizes the importance of safeguarding what truly holds value from the trivial pursuits that can easily consume our time and energy.

The "things which matter most" are subjective, varying from person to person. It could be nurturing relationships with loved ones, pursuing a cherished dream, or maintaining our physical and mental well-being. However, these core values are often threatened by the "things which matter least." These can be distractions like social media, the urge to procrastinate, or the pressure to conform to societal expectations.

The key lies in conscious prioritization. We must actively identify what truly matters and establish boundaries to protect them. This might involve scheduling dedicated time for our passions, learning to say no to unimportant obligations, or streamlining daily routines to minimize wasted effort.

Ultimately, this proverb is a call for self-awareness and control. It reminds us that a fulfilling life hinges on safeguarding our core values from the relentless tide of trivialities. By constantly evaluating priorities and taking control of our time, we can ensure that "things which matter most" remain at the forefront of our lives.